



ARAB TIMES

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Expected results have not been achieved

Police checking on roads suspended

POLICE checking, particularly on roads, has been suspended, according to a senior Interior Ministry official.

The director-general of the general administration of the police and emergency communications, Brig. Abdul Hameed Al-Hajji, said the checks were suspended as these failed to achieve the expected results and caused traffic jams including inconvenience to citizens especially during the summer season.

Patrol

However, he stressed, that this did not imply that police patrols would not inspect cars and people. They are within their rights to stop and question any suspected car or person at any place.

The official commented that when a police patrol asks a car driver to stop, the driver should stay in his car. Policemen have been instructed to approach the car driver and not to ask him to walk out of the car to the police

Patrol vehicle

He added that policemen have no right to ask a person, who is not a suspect, where he is coming from or going to. His duties are limited to checking the car registration book and driving licence, noting any violations. But the police are within their rights to question a person near vital installations such as oil terminals etc.

Police are not entitled to ask any woman accompanying the driver as to their relationship, or if they are husband and wife. He can, however, ask to see her identity card. The police can ask questions if the couple are found in a compromising situation, if police receive complaints against the couple, or if police suspect that the woman has been kidnapped or threatened.

Al Hajji pointed out that the police are losing patience with the recklessness of some drivers, especially youths who threaten lives of innocent pedestrians and other drivers, including their own.

Every effort is being made to

arrest such drivers and stop races among them at night.

The official was critical of parents who did not impress upon their children the importance of strictly adhering to the traffic code-of-conduct.

The brigadier said that citizens could call the telephone number 199 for any emergency. He disclosed that response would be immediate. The caller should, however, be clear in his answers relating to his house address and telephone number and other information sought, that may help police in rendering him assistance.

Capable

He added, the emergency patrols also play an active role in controlling traffic in the same manner as traffic patrols and added that traffic work constitutes about 70 per cent of the total work of the emergency police patrols.

Emergency policemen possess the same authority as traffic policemen with regard to traffic

violations, he said and added that the ministry rewards policemen who excel in their duties or catch criminals during their normal duties.

Efforts are being made to provide each emergency patrol vehicle with a computer capable of giving the patrol car instant information on any suspected vehicle instead of having to contact the control room as at present. However, this would take some time to achieve, he said.

The official explained that the emergency police department was established in 1956 and was called the information department. In 1959 it was renamed and has a separate building situated at the 6th Ring Road.

The administration is equipped with the latest equipments and has hot lines with all government establishments and ministries.

Staff of the administration aim at being at the site of a crime in the shortest possible time, keeping the crime level at a minimum and protecting people and their property.



Sheikh Saad and Bush (right) in jovial mood during their talks in Washington. (Reuter wirephoto)

Iran trying to disrupt haj using proxies

IRAN intends to use hired people from other countries to disrupt this month's annual Muslim pilgrimage in Makkah, a senior Saudi Arabian official has said.

Tehran has accused Riyadh of harrassing Iranian pilgrims. In June, Iran said it would boycott the haj and called on other Muslims to demonstrate in the holy places.

"Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini and his followers intend to slip some hired elements of different nationalities among the pilgrims to carry out acts of sabotage," Al Seyyad newspaper quoted Pilgrimage Affairs and Endowments Minister Sheikh Abdul-Wahab Abdul-Wahab as saying.

Nature

He said their plans included "noisy demonstrations, heretic chants and foolish practices carried out by (Iranian) Revolutionary Guards at last year's pilgrimage."

Saudi Arabia accused Iran of corrupting the religious nature of the haj last year by turning it into a political demonstration.

Iran said pilgrims had the right to demonstrate.

Sheikh Abdul-Wahab

reiterated Saudi statements that Iranian pilgrims were welcomed as long as their numbers did not exceed the figure reached under a quota system introduced by Riyadh for this year's haj.

Saudi Arabia earlier this month warned pilgrims of severe punishment if they attempted to preach political ideas or import propaganda during the haj.

Riyadh's quota system allows countries to send one pilgrim for every 1,000 people, meaning Iran would be allowed to send up to 45,000 compared with the 150,000 it sent last year.

Saudi Arabia cut diplomatic links with Iran in April, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Iranians to obtain entry visas for the kingdom.

Officials in Saudi Arabia said pilgrims arriving without visas would be turned back at the borders.

The director of the Saudi passport department, Maj. Gen. Fahed Mohammed Al Shares, disclosed that till yesterday, 685,487 pilgrims had arrived in Saudi Arabia.

A total of 450,670 people arrived by air, 200,749 by land and 34,068 by sea.

No Egyptian riot police in Saudi Arabia: Prince Nayef

BAHRAIN, July 16. (Reuter): Saudi Arabia denied today that Egyptian para-military police had arrived to help prevent a repetition of last year's rioting during the Muslim pilgrimage this month.

The denial was made by Interior Minister Prince Nayef at a news conference in the Muslim holy city of Makkah reported by the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

Gulf-based Arab diplomats told Reuters on Tuesday that 1,000 hand-picked men had arrived in the kingdom to help police the annual pilgrimage (haj). Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badri denied the report.

SPA quoted Prince Nayef as inviting correspondents to see for themselves that there were no Egyptian riot police in the kingdom.

"I am the interior minister and I have no knowledge of such forces. The Egyptian interior minister has no knowledge of such forces. How can (Reuters) confirm their presence?" he asked in reply to a question.

Prince Nayef said Saudi Arabia relied on its own security forces and population to defend its security and the security of pilgrims.

Haj on July 23

BAHRAIN, July 16. (Agencies): Saudi Arabia has ruled that the Muslim holy month of haj, or pilgrimage, began on July 15. Haj will be on July 23 and the Eid Al Adha feast will begin on July 24.

A statement issued by the Royal Court and carried by the Saudi Press Agency said the superior judicial council had determined that Friday was the first day of the month of Zulhaj. The Eid Al Adha feast falls on the 10th day of Zulhaj.

Floods kill 12

NEW DELHI, July 16. (AP): The long-awaited monsoon rains claimed 12 more lives today in floods throughout India, news agencies reported.

The child's father told doctors he had reported his son missing about noon on Thursday, when temperatures soared in the heat wave gripping much of the country.

The father, Dale Krog, said he found his son six hours later when he opened the chest freezer to get meat for dinner.

Joseph Krog, of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, died yesterday afternoon. Dr. Stephen Evans, emergency room director at St. Joseph Hospital said.

He was brought to St. Joseph on Thursday with a temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 Centigrade). Frost had formed on his body and he had no pulse, Evans said.

The recoveries brought to 179 the number of bodies pulled from the Gulf, it said.

The radio report today said the bodies will be taken to the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas to attempt identification.

9 more bodies found

NICOSIA, July 16. (AP): Nine more decomposed bodies from the Iran Air jetliner downed by a US missile over the southern Gulf were recovered in the past two days, Tcherni Radio reported.

The recoveries brought to 179 the number of bodies pulled from the Gulf, it said.

The radio report today said the bodies will be taken to the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas to attempt identification.

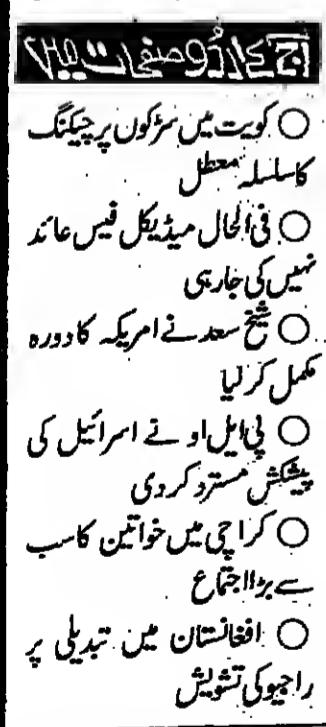
ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

Mr. Ajay Kumar has won the Four Corners prize. He will receive KD 25, Game No. 65 continues for the Top Line and three Full House prizes.

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WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light to moderate north-westerly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate.
High water: 3.00 am, 1.00 pm.
Low water: 8.00 am, 8.30 pm.
Sunrise: 4.39 am
Sunset: 6.49 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 36°C 115°F
Ahmad: 40°C 104°F
Falak: 40°C 104°F
Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 26°C 79°F
Ahmad: 32°C 90°F
Falak: 32°C 90°F
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 46°C 115°F
Ahmad: 40°C 104°F
Falak: 40°C 104°F
Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 15 percent
Ahmad: 60 percent
Falak: 60 percent
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 15 percent
Ahmad: 50 percent
Falak: 50 percent

Though one in three gave her man a "10" for his sexual prowess in bed, only 12 per cent rate their mates a "10" romantically and 38 per cent reported they were very satisfied with the emotional intimacy in their marriages. "People often assume that women who have affairs -- or consider them -- are looking for sex, but our survey strongly suggest that women are longing for romance instead," Levine said.

(Continued on Page 2)

The Pentagon has said the captain of the Vincennes believed the

Gulf war 'nearing an end'

BEIRUT, July 16, (KUNA): Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed was here today as expressing hope that the eight-year-old Gulf war was nearing an end.

The latest developments (in the Gulf region) must have an impact and the war must stop," said Sheikh Sabah in a statement published here in Lebanese weekly Al Nahar Al Arabi Wal Dawli.

He was further quoted as saying that Syria promised it would do whatever it can to halt the Iran-Iraq war after it has been established that neither belligerent can win a decisive victory on the battlefield.

He said Arab leaders he had met in a recent tour very much appreciated Kuwait's drive to

contain the explosive situation in the Gulf region.

Sheikh Sabah earlier this month visited Baghdad, Damascus and Amman where he conveyed messages from HH the Amir of Kuwait to Presidents Saddam Hussein, Hafez Al-Assad and King Hussein.

He was further quoted as saying that Syria promised it would do whatever it can to halt the Iran-Iraq war after it has been established that neither belligerent can win a decisive victory on the battlefield.

Hundreds of riot police, including policewomen, stood apart from the meeting and did not interfere.

Police said the rally, on a Karachi playing field, was the biggest held by women in Pakistan and could have been the largest in southern Asia.

The Security Council, thus opening the way to responsible reaction instead of being carried away by an emotional public opinion," West Germany's Ambassador Hans-Joachim Vayati said: "We'll wait and see."

Washington, which has offered compensation to the victims, has automatic veto power over any council resolution.

Asked if the downing of the Iranian Airbus by the US cruiser Vincennes on July 3 was premeditated, Vayati said: "The evidence shows that."

Climbing

A transcript of radio calls released by Iran indicates the Airbus was climbing from 12,000 to 14,000 feet when it was shot down.

The Pentagon has said the captain of the Vincennes believed the

Iranian side was a fighter, flying between 7,000 and 9,000 feet and descending over the Gulf when the ship fired.

In the council, a range of delegations praised the Iranians for taking their case to the United Nations — their first such initiative in three decades — and called for renewed international efforts to end the eight-year-old war.

Several delegations said the need now was to press for implementation of the unanimous council demand for a ceasefire adopted here a year ago on Wednesday.

So far, Iran has not accepted the UN ceasefire call.

West Germany said Iran's call for a Security Council session on the Airbus incident offered a renewed opportunity for the world body to help end the war.

We have noted carefully that the Iranian side has appealed to

the Security Council, thus opening the way to responsible reaction instead of being carried away by an emotional public opinion," West Germany's Ambassador Hans-Joachim Vayati said.

The there had been many instances of "interference" by foreign warships in the Gulf with civilian airliners, said Al Shaali, who reported he lost relatives in the disaster.

He did not list the previous instances of naval "interference" but said US authorities had been notified.

Security Council seeks middle ground

UNITED NATIONS, July 16, (Reuter): Members of the Security Council "doesn't have a sponsor" to push its position, the delegate said.

Asked later, by reporters to assess his nation's demand for condemnation of the United States, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said: "We'll wait and see."

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INTERNATIONAL

Warsaw Pact leaders concerned on arms race

Call to stop military spending

WARSAW, July 16, (AP): Leaders of the seven-nation Warsaw Pact expressed support today for an East-West moratorium on increases in military spending and called for new talks before the end of the year on reducing conventional arms.

The communist allies also signed a separate statement at the end of a two-day conference, expressing concern about the effects of the arms race on the environment.

The state-run news agency PAP said the documents contained "important new ideas (that) serve to consolidate positive European and world tendencies in questions of disarmament and making them irreversible."

Deputy Foreign Minister Henrik Jaroszek was quoted by PAP as saying the statement on reducing conventional arms and troops has "great significance."

New talks

"The countries of the Warsaw Pact spoke for starting new disarmament negotiations during 1988," he said.

Discussing the need for conventional force reductions in Europe, Jaroszek said at a separate news briefing that the huge stockpiles of weapons and

massive troop developments on both sides "make it difficult for further improvement in the international climate."

They also hurt social and economic development of all states and complicate "the development of broad Pan-European cooperation," he said.

The summit's final communiqué said the Warsaw Pact countries support negotiations with members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation "on freezing and reducing military expenditures and on announcing, on principles of reciprocity, a moratorium on increasing (military spending) for one to two years."

Offensive

The summit talks were more open than in past Warsaw Pact meetings, said Jerzy Nowak, another foreign ministry official.

"The style is definitely different, in the sense of rejecting some ceremonial approaches and the repeating of long empty formulas which were used very often in these bodies before," he said.

Speaking at a dinner attended by the leaders last night, conference host Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski of Poland said a "peace offensive" was under way in the socialist countries.

Pact members have recently put forward "a number of valuable, original initiatives" in arms control, he said. "Their active character and importance were underlined today at this meeting."

Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu, in a dinner toast published by PAP, called for new talks on banning battlefield nuclear weapons from Europe.

Ceausescu called for new East-West talks on the subject of tactical nuclear weapons that remain outside the scope of the new US-Soviet treaty to scrap intermediate-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

The US-Soviet INF Treaty was a step toward disarmament but "the dangerous course of events has not yet been radically changed toward detente, cooperation and peace," the Romanian leader said.

New thinking

He proposed that "talks on complete removal of any short-range nuclear weapons from the European continent should be started as soon as possible," along with planned talks this fall on reducing conventional forces.

Jaruzelski, whose toast was distributed to reporters, also pointed to proposals made by Gorbachev in a speech Monday

to the Polish Parliament as an example of "new, long-range thinking."

Gorbachev urged a renewed effort to break deadlock with NATO over reducing conventional forces in Europe, suggesting a Pan-European conference and a withdrawal of some Warsaw Pact air forces in exchange for the West's giving up plans to deploy 72 F-16 fighter-bombers in Italy.

The proposals already had been rejected by the United States.

"Europe can and should shed its armament shackles" that limit economic, scientific and cultural development between East and West, Jaruzelski told his colleagues. But at the same time, he fled Poland's future to the Soviet Union, saying his country's alliance with Moscow forms "the basis of secure, peaceful existence and successful development of Poland."

Other leaders taking part in the summit at the stately council of ministers palace, where the treaty of Warsaw setting up the alliance was signed in 1955, were Erich Honecker of East Germany, Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, Karoly Grosz of Hungary and Milos Jakes of Czechoslovakia.



President Reagan (left) confers with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the White House. (Reuter wirephoto)

NATO officers drown in rescue attempt

ROME, July 16. (AP): Two military officers, one a Dane, the other British, drowned while attempting to rescue several children who were caught in rough surf off a beach south of Rome, authorities reported today.

A spokesman for the NATO defence college in Rome, where the two victims were enrolled in a course, identified the officers as Brig. Gen. Russell Maynard from southern England and Lieut. Col. Niels Erik Thor of the Danish Army.

Home towns and ages for both men were not immediately available said the spokesman, adding that the officers were about 48 years old.

The two officers and several colleagues and their families were having a barbecue on a beach at Fregene, a town about 20 kilometres from Rome when the children encountered difficulties with the water, said the spokesman.

Amidst the youngsters was a child of Maynard, the spokesman said.

Italian lifeguards and members of the beach party pulled the children safely to shore. The two victims also were pulled out of the water and given quick attention by a doctor, the spokesman said, but it was too late.

Funeral arrangements were pending, the spokesman said.

The six-month-long course at the defense college runs through the end of July, he said.

Students stone Israeli soldiers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16. (Agencies): Students erected roadblocks and stoned soldiers, who responded with tear gas and rubber bullets during scattered anti-Israeli unrest today in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian sources said.

In Nablus, three Palestinians were shot and wounded during clashes with soldiers, the sources said.

They said the clashes erupted after soldiers, not in uniform and driving cars with local licence plates, entered the town's main square and fired shots in the air.

The Army was investigating the report, an Army spokesman said.

In the old city of Nablus, troops opened fire on the protesters, wounding three, a local Arab reporter said.

Officials at Nablus' St. Luke Hospital identified the wounded as Muhammed Abdallah, 21, who suffered a wound in his abdomen, and Muhammed Hamir, 19, who was wounded in his left leg.

Doctors at Al Ittihad Hospital said they treated 21-year-old Mahmoud Al Kasar for a bullet wound in his right leg.

The Army command said an Israeli patrol saw four masked Arab men who raised Palestinian flags and threw stones. It said the soldiers were forced to respond with fire, wounding three.

Demonstrations occurred in 15 UN-run refugee camps and villages surrounding Ramallah.

Reagan seeks UN budget reforms

WASHINGTON, July 16. (Agencies): President Reagan told United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday that the United States would withhold membership dues until the world body undertakes further budget reforms, the White House said.

Reagan took the hardline stand on US financial support during a meeting and working luncheon with Perez de Cuellar.

In a written statement issued later, spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said: "The President said that the US recognises its obligations to the UN, but that further progress on reform was necessary to meet the concerns of Congress."

The United States is more than \$500 million in arrears in its UN membership dues, stemming from an administration decision three years ago to withhold obligated funds in order to force changes in UN management practices.

Reforms

Although the administration sought to make a \$44-million emergency payment last year, Congress held up the move pending further reforms and Reagan supported its action. In the meantime, the US chief, White House officials said.

Perez de Cuellar said last month that the regular-budget arrears, including funds owed by the United States, mean "the

organisation will be completely out of money, with all reserves exhausted, by the end of October or early November ... unable to meet its commitments to member states and to staff."

Last month, Perez de Cuellar warned that UN will exhaust its funds by late October or early November.

As the richest UN member, the United States is assessed about one-quarter of the annual UN general budget, although the United States does not always agree to pay its full assessment.

The general budget is more than \$800 million.

The United States has called for a proportional system of voting on budget matters so that voting power would be in line with financial support by UN member nations.

In the one-nation, one-vote 159-nation General Assembly, the United States' vote counts as much as that of countries that pay much less.

US officials also had objected to the assignment of Soviet civil servants to the United Nations on a short-term basis, arguing that such a system undermined the goal of an independent UN civil service.

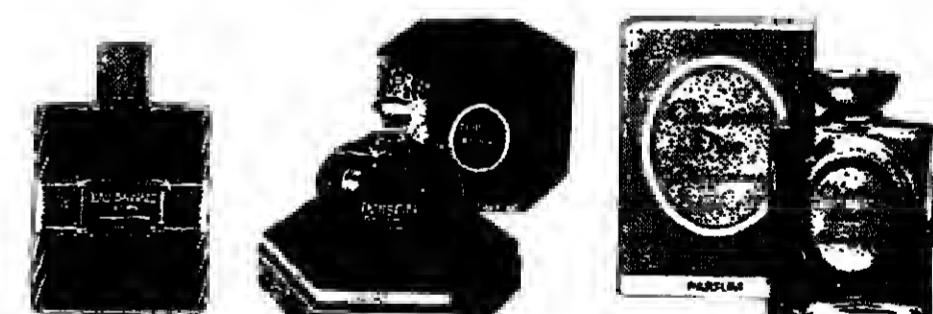
In May, the Soviet Union announced that more of its civil servants would be allowed to work under permanent contracts in the UN civil service.

Bingo Day 5
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INTERNATIONAL

Rajiv fears militants may rule Afghanistan

MADRID, July 16. (Reuter): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today his country's major concern over Afghanistan was that a fundamentalist Islamic government might come to power.

"Our major worry in Afghanistan is an attempt to put in a fundamentalist government," Rajiv told a news conference during a three-day visit to Spain.

"We have no objections to a strong religious attitude but we would like to keep religion out of politics especially in our region, we feel that otherwise it can have repercussions for all countries in the region."

Under a UN-mediated accord, Soviet troops began withdrawing from Afghanistan in May after eight years backing the communist government's war against Muslim rebels.

The form which the Afghan government will take after the Soviet troops are gone has not been agreed, with rebels of more or less fundamentalist leanings divided among themselves.

Rajiv said India had one of the largest Muslim populations in the world, adding: "It (a fundamentalist government) would have a very negative effect on us and other countries around us."

Optimism

But he added: "We're confident that there is no danger of such a government coming in, at least in the near future."

"The strength of the fundamentalists has been highly over-rated in certain sections of the media," Rajiv said.

"This has ... been confirmed by the fact they have had to put up a government-in-exile rather than what they planned, which was to capture one of the towns, and then put up a government in one of the captured towns," Rajiv said.



Rajiv and his host Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez laugh as they settle down to hold their first bilateral meeting. (Reuter wirephoto)

US firm accused of delaying tactics**Union Carbide chief missing**

BHOPAL, July 16. (Reuter): The ex-chairman of Union Carbide, facing prosecution over the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster, is untraceable and cannot be summoned to court, an Indian government prosecutor said today.

Prosecutor U.S. Prasad told a Bhopal court that Interpol had failed to find Warren Anderson, chairman of the US-based multinational at the time of the world's worst industrial accident, and that his present address was not readily available.

He accused Union Carbide of deliberately suppressing the address and of using delaying tactics.

Bhopal chief magistrate Kanhaiyalal Sisodia ordered the Union Carbide accountant who stood bail for Anderson to produce him at the next hearing of the case on Sept. 24.

Anderson is one of nine people

facing criminal charges of causing deaths and injuries through negligence. He and others, all Indians, could in theory face the death penalty if convicted.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed and more than 200,000 injured when poisonous gas leaked out of Union Carbide's Bhopal pesticides plant on Dec. 3, 1984.

Anderson was arrested in Bhopal four days after the disaster and was freed on bail of 25,000 rupees (\$1,800).

The Union Carbide Corporation and its Hong Kong subsidiary are also facing criminal charges. But the two companies and Anderson, who has since retired from his post, were unrepresented in court.

Union Carbide is also facing a separate compensation suit in which the Indian government has demanded \$3.3 billion on behalf of the victims.

The compensation case is a continuing focus of attention in this central Indian city of nearly one million people and angry demonstrations are held outside the court whenever hearings take place.

But today's criminal case went almost unnoticed, with only lawyers and journalists attending the hearing.

The court granted Prasad's plea that fresh summonses to the corporation and its Hong Kong subsidiary, be served through their respective chairmen.

Prasad told reporters outside the court that the magistrate's court proceedings would end as soon as Anderson made his appearance. The case would then go to a sessions court for a full-fledged trial.

"Our responsibility at the moment is only to prove a prima facie case which is well established," Prasad said.

4 die as police battle Filipino communists

CAGAYAN DE ORO, July 16. (UPI): Three guerrillas and a policeman are dead after a fierce battle between communist rebels and police defending a besieged town hall in southern Mindanao island, a military spokesman said today.

Army division commander Col. Rogelio Villanueva said about 100 New People's Army insurgents yesterday surrounded the town hall of Lianga, Surigao Del Sur, some 860 km south of the Capital.

He said 18 policemen guarding the town hall were forewarned of the attack and barricaded the area with sand bags.

The rebels, speaking through a megaphone, ordered the lawmen to surrender but "instead of laying down their arms, the policemen simultaneously opened fire, killing three of the rebels on the spot," Villanueva said. A policeman was also killed, he added.

In the hour-long battle that ensued, rebels pounded the town hall with grenades and police were forced to radio a nearby village for military reinforcement and troops.

The statement said the US team "declared that the released re-education centre detainees coming to the United States would be subject to all US laws, including those affecting the activities of US residents towards other countries."

The rebels fled on several commandeered vehicles carrying their wounded companions.

The area has been the scene of continuing battles between government and rebel forces that have claimed the lives of at least 25 guerrillas and wounded about 50 others.

Security forces have succeeded in capturing two rebel camps in the area.

Protest

Meanwhile, about 2,000 anti-communist demonstrators surrounded the convent of a Roman Catholic bishop yesterday to protest a church reshuffling they fear will bring radical priests into the diocese.

Carrying placards saying, "we need preachers of God, not radical clergy," and "Clean the church of radical priests and nuns," the protesters denounced Bacolod Bishop Antonio Fortich for having orchestrated the reassignment of priests.

The popular Fortich, who served as an observer last year in failed peace talks to end a 19-year insurgency, was among the signatories of a pastoral letter issued by Philippine bishops urging an end to political violence in Asia's only Christian nation.

Police recovered seven empty liquor bottles from the room in Abbasi Hospital in the western suburbs of Karachi.

Floods kill four in west Japan

TOKYO, July 16. (AP): At least four people were killed and 11 others missing in western Japan as rain-swollen waters flooded homes and highways and disrupted local train service, police said today.

The bodies of three family members were recovered after flood waters washed their car off a road near Toba, Mie prefecture, about 330 kilometres southwest of Tokyo along the Pacific coast, regional police said.

Japan's meteorological agency said in a statement that 84 millimetres (3.4 inches) of rain fell in a one-hour period yesterday in Tottori prefecture, located 500 kilometres southwest of Tokyo on the Japan sea side. The downpour set off minor land slides and cut off communication lines.

A heavy-rain warning for most of western Japan has been in effect since Thursday. Flood warnings were also issued for the Tottori region, where 200 millimetres (8 inches) of rainfall was recorded by yesterday noon.

Meanwhile, widespread flooding caused by torrential monsoon rains in western India has claimed several lives and forced the evacuation of 25,000 people, it was reported.



A river floods houses in Himeji, Japan, as torrential rains lashed western Japan, causing the death of several people. (Reuter wirephoto)

Power shifting to native Taiwanese

TAIPEI, July 16. (AP): The ruling Nationalist Party emerged from its just concluded congress with a revamped leadership to gradually steer Taiwan further from an authoritarian and uncompromising past.

The 13th congress of the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, had been advertised as a landmark meeting to plot the 94-year-old party's future after the end of the Chiang Kai-Shek family dynasty.

Ever since the nationalist government behind Chiang Kai-Shek was driven from mainland China in 1949 by communist forces, the party has been consumed by an undying dream of one day returning to rule the world's most populous nation.

Although the congress defiantly vowed to keep that dream alive, it cautiously acknowledged the need to replace aging party elders with a more dynamic leadership aware of the need for democratic change at home and pragmatism in dealing with China.

The new party leadership unveiled at the congress clearly showed power is shifting to native Taiwanese, who constitute 85 per cent of this prosperous island's nearly 20 million

Soviet soldiers fear punishment at home**Deserters reject amnesty**

NEW YORK, July 16. (AP): Six Soviets who served in the Red Army in Afghanistan declared yesterday they would refuse an offer to return to their homeland, saying they feared retribution from Soviet authorities.

But a man who jumped to his feet during their news conference and identified himself as a Soviet diplomat said the men would face no harm if they returned.

"Don't be shy. If you wish to be in contact, call the Soviet Embassy in Washington," he called out to the former soldiers. "Nobody will drag you out of the United States."

As other audience members jeered at him, he then strode to the front of the room to put printed leaflets on the table in front of the men.

He identified himself as Dmitry Titov of the Soviet mission to the United Nations. The leaflets bore a Soviet statement of July 4 that announced an offer of amnesty to soldiers who turned against their country during its intervention in Afghanistan.

Sri Lankans pay respect to holy elephant

COLOMBO, July 16. (Reuter): Raja, a holy elephant who became a Sri Lankan national treasure, died of extreme old age today and thousands came to mourn at the Buddhist temple where he worked.

The majestic tusker died in the central town of Kandy, where for 50 years he had carried a golden casket containing relics of Buddha in an annual religious pageant.

At 81-year-old, Raja equalled

the greatest verified age recorded for an elephant by the Guinness Book of Records.

A temple official said thousands of people had lined up to pay their respects to the animal. "Funeral arrangements will be notified later," he said. Raja's fame was so great that the government declared it a "national treasure" three years ago and President Jusius Jayewardene sent a veterinarian team whenever he fell ill.

One resident of Kandy, 110 km from Colombo, said by telephone: "His body has been covered with a gold braided elephant dress."

"Please call him not only the holiest animal in the world but also the most lovable," another resident said.

The Kandy Perahera pageant in which Raja appeared is part of the "temple of the tooth" festival, which takes place at a shrine housing what is reputed to be a tooth of Buddha.

Raja recently retired and was not due to carry the relic casket at this year's pageant.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi promised an elephant from India to take the animal's place after its retirement.

Liquor party

KARACHI, July 16. (Reuter): Pakistani police said they arrested 20 people, including three doctors, on Friday for holding a party in a hospital conference hall and drinking alcohol, banned under Islamic law.

Police recovered seven empty liquor bottles from the room in Abbasi Hospital in the western suburbs of Karachi.

The news conference was sponsored by Freedom House, a New York-based human rights group. The six were brought to the news conference by Freedom House, which had sought their release.

R. Bruce McColm, executive director of the organisation, said he called the meeting to urge the establishment of an international commission, not linked to the Soviet Union, to address the issue of Soviet and Afghan prisoners of war.

He said a commission could ensure the estimated 200-300 Soviet PoWs remaining in the hands of anti-communist mujahedeen fighters have a choice whether to return home or defect. Freedom House estimates that many are deserters and some actually are fighting for the insurgents.

Friday's news conference, conducted in Russian and English through an interpreter, was punctuated by outbursts in both languages.

Taras Derevlyany, 20, a

private who left his Army post on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway three weeks after arriving in Afghanistan in May 1987, looked in the direction of Titov and said, "I don't need your amnesty. America is a free country."

He paused and added, "I gave up my Soviet citizenship."

Mistake

Derevlyany and the others said they felt the Soviet intervention was a tragic mistake and told how they were sickened by what they called the Soviet slaughter of civilians, including children, in bombing runs and ground attacks.

"I don't want to go back to the Soviet Union. What will people think of me? He's a deserter, a traitor."

Vladimir Romchuk, 22, a Soviet Army deserter in 1985 who was held by Afghan rebels until his release to the West last April, also looked in the direction of the official and said, "Yes, I am a deserter in your eyes. But I am happy person here."

Shultz gets Chinese and Soviet assurances**'Seoul Olympics will be safe'**

"The Chinese have made similar comments about their point of view," he added.

He also noted that China and the Soviet were both sending teams to the Olympics and said, "I think everybody will be exerting their influence in a positive way."

The 1988 Olympic Games are scheduled to open on Sept. 17 amid some of the most elaborate and most intense security ever mounted for an international sporting event.

Fears

There have been fears that communist North Korea, which the United States has branded a terrorist nation and which lost its bid to co-host the Olympics, would try to disrupt the games.

Recently, US officials have detected Soviet deliveries of advanced weapons to North Korea, including surface-to-air missiles that have been installed near the demilitarized zone and

are able to reach Seoul.

Shultz told reporters: "I'm basically not concerned about security for the Olympics because I observe that the South Koreans are doing such a good job putting into place all the measures that will deter any acts to disturb the Olympics."

To underscore this view, he sped from the airport to the Olympic Village and Olympic Park for a quick tour before checking into his hotel.

He pointedly signed the guest book at the village where 14,000 athletes will live with the words: "With my admiration."

He told reporters the facilities were outstanding by any comparison with facilities constructed by other countries for similar events.

In an arrival statement, Shultz touched on trade tensions between the two countries. South Korea is the United States' seventh largest trading partner.

Insult to monk sparks riots in Burma

RANGOON, July 16. (UPI): At least three people were killed and 30 others wounded during clashes sparked by a bakery worker who flicked a rubber band at a Buddhist beggar alms, the official NAB news agency reported.

The protocol was signed by Egyptian Defence Minister Abd-el-Halim Abu-Ghazaleh and his Sudanese counterpart Abd-el-Majid Khalil.

Following the signing ceremony, Khalil said the agreement, described as a protocol of technical co-operation in the military field, would enhance the capabilities and expertise of the Sudanese armed forces by making use of Egypt's expertise in the field.

The protocol, which in effect formalizes an already existing military co-operation between the two countries, provides for "more assistance" to the Sudan, Khalil said without elaboration.

But during a subsequent series of confrontations, hundreds of demonstrators destroyed shops belonging to the owner of the bakery, attacked homes of his relatives and clashed with police.

Sihanouk to visit Tokyo as scheduled

TOKYO, July 16. (AP): Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who resigned last Monday as head of the Kampuchean resistance coalition, will visit Japan in August as originally scheduled, according to reports carried in the Japanese press today.

In a message Thursday to Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, Sihanouk said he would like to visit Japan as scheduled, despite initial plans to call off the trip, the leading economic daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported. The newspaper did not cite sources for the message.

Sihanouk was expected to cancel his four-day visit to Japan, to begin Aug. 8, in the wake of his resignation. He had said he stepped down in protest against alleged assaults on his own forces by his supposed allies in the three-party coalition, the radical communist Khmer Rouge.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said today they had re-extended their invitation to the Prince after his resignation but had not yet received a formal reply.

Sihanouk is expected to meet Prime Minister Noboru Takeshi and Uno in Tokyo to discuss Kampuchean peace talks, Kyodo news service reported, citing government sources.

road running past Pollsmoor Prison, in the wooded white Cape Town suburb of Tokai.

Motorists were told the road was closed and they were not allowed through without a good reason. A police spokesman said the roadblocks would remain in place until after Mandela's birthday.

Anti-apartheid church leader Allan Boesak said police had sealed off a stadium in Cape Town's Guguletu black township where the festival was to be staged and ordered spectators to leave.

Medical charges may not be imposed

THE Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzaq has said he would exert his efforts to ensure that no medical charges are imposed during his tenure in office.

However, while emphasising the right of every citizen to medication, the minister said that no country could provide free medical services indefinitely and time would come when patients would have to pay a nominal charge.

Denied

The minister also denied any knowledge of there being a move towards privatisation of the medical services. He reaffirmed that the ministry was constantly seeking to develop its public services at clinics and other medical centres, as well as to rectify the problem of the shortage of qualified personnel. He said that Kuwaitis represented only 20 to 30 per cent of nursing staff and were in general reluctant to join the profession.

He pointed out that two new clinics would be in operation soon, one in Sabahia and the other in Riqqa, and that new measures would be put into force to existing clinics to reduce waiting time.

He said that the ministry was currently considering new measures to protect patients from exploitation by doctors and that the General Medical Council was originally set up to safeguard the medical profession and to evaluate the proficiency of doctors.

Priority

A further point concerned the Kuwait Pharmaceutical Company, which he said had agreed to provide the ministry with medical supplies as its first priority. He also said that a study was underway to fix prices for locally produced medications.

The minister also reported on the successful elimination of



Dr Abdul Razzaq

large numbers of small insects by means of insecticides.

Meanwhile, the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Public Health for technical affairs Dr Tareq Al Abdul Jader revealed that the ministry is conducting a study to create two new posts of assistant undersecretaries.

Intends

He disclosed that the ministry intends to establish special staff to follow up the health areas headed by an assistant undersecretary. It will also establish a new staff to be headed by an assistant undersecretary for central administration affairs. The two new staffs will work to develop the health services in the country.

Al Abdul Jader said that the ministry would introduce shifts among directors of health areas including physicians working in the health centres and hospitals.

He said that the ministry will open Sabahia and Ardhiya health centres shortly. Further, he said, two new centres have been prepared and they will be commissioned after completing their medical requirements and nursing cadres.

Pearl diving contest

THE director of the Sea Clubs Department and head of the higher committee for the fifth marine week celebrations Abdul Hadi Yaqoub announced that all the six members of the GCC will participate in the second pearl diving contest on Aug 8.

The pearl diving trip will go to diving locations at Al Zour and Kheiran and is scheduled for five days and will end on Aug 18. A big reception is planned for the divers at Al Beda Sea Club beach.

Help

Al Yaqoub pointed out that the first pearl diving contest was held on a local level in 1984 and 25 divers took part. The first contest for the GCC states was held in 1985 at which two GCC states took part — namely Qatar and Bahrain.

He added that a pearl diving school was opened in 1987 on the occasion of the fourth marine week in Kuwait. Thirty students graduated from the school during the last year session. Due to the large number of youths desiring to enrol, other branches for

the diving school will be opened.

In a related development a 25 year-old Kuwaiti youth Jamal Yamani working at the National Petroleum Co will for the first time in the history of Kuwait attempt to swim a 35 kilometres distance during the fifth marine week celebrations.

He said that the experience would facilitate his participating at international contests for long distance swimmers.

Dreams

Yamani said that he dreams of swimming the English channel and if was successful, it would encourage other Kuwaiti youths to participate at international contests.

He previously swam for 27 kilometres at Kuwait's last National Day which he achieved in 11 hours and 25 minutes.

Yamani trains for three hours a day, but, believes this to be too short due to his working schedule. He trains at the swimming pool complex at the coastal front.

UAE to join navigation plan in Gulf

ABU DHABI, July 16, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will join a Japanese-funded scheme to reduce the war risks of navigating in the Gulf, a Japanese embassy spokesman said today.

He said UAE officials had agreed to join a Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in the scheme, involving the erection of advanced beacons which will provide ships with a more precise fix on their positions than presently available.

He said a Japanese parliamentary delegation left the UAE today for Muscat to seek Oman's approval for the plan.

Shipping sources say the beacons will allow warships and merchant ships to establish with greater accuracy which areas have been swept of mines.

The \$10-million scheme is Japan's contribution to protecting shipping in the Gulf, which provides Japan with most of its oil. Several Japanese-owned ships have been attacked in the tanker war between Iran and Iraq.

Contracts signed

TWO contracts worth KD1.006 million for beautification and maintenance of gardens, streets and intersections in the second and third zones were signed in Kuwait yesterday.

A statement by the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries said that the director-general and board chairman Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij signed the contracts with local companies today.

Summer courses



A club member learns how to operate a cine camera.

THE summer educational season for young scientists at the Kuwait Science Club for Girls has begun with four courses dealing with police work, auto mechanics, astronomy and cinematography.

The courses will include lectures, demonstrations and field visits, and will take students from theoretical work to actual practice.

A total of 70 club members of various ages will take the courses.

The courses will include lectures, demonstrations and field visits, and will take students from theoretical work to actual practice.

The presence of too many wild dogs was attributed to the farmers themselves who raised such dogs and then neglected them.

The department added that after repeated attacks by wild dogs on animal farms in Wafer area, the department is in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior formed combat teams to eradicate this menace.

During last month and early this month, stray dogs in the area attacked many farms killing and seriously injuring 145 heads of cattle. However, the dogs only killed the sheep without so much as eating any meat.

Samples of the dogs killed were tested for rabies.

The official said, fishing nets, water pumps, sewing machines, and carpentry tools were some of the goods gifted by the Islamic Development Bank.

This help comes following appeals by the Sri Lankan Muslim Affairs Minister, Mohamed Hanifa Mohamed, to Middle Eastern countries for help to rehabilitate the affected Muslims of the island.

The refugees are part of the estimated 120,000 Muslims affected by the more than five

Undersecretaries should resign when a new minister is appointed: Al Naqeeb

THE Undersecretary at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr Nael Al Naqeeb, called on all undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries to tender their resignations whenever a new minister is appointed.

The reasoning behind this thinking, he said, was to facilitate the new minister with a free choice of selecting his top aides.

Resigning

The official stressed that top ministry administrators should not stay too long at the same post. However, he called for re-studying the proposal to limit the four years the period top ministry officials could stay at their posts.

Dr Al Naqeeb added that the most vital element for good administration is understanding and co-operation. He disclosed that when he was appointed Undersecretary for the Ministry of Public Health, by the former Minister of Health and present Minister of Planning, Dr Abdul



Dr Nael Al Naqeeb

Rahman Al Awadi, there was a clear understanding and co-operation. He said, that when the new minister was appointed, he was the first to co-operate and ask the minister if he desired to make any changes to the administration.

Speaking on the same subject, the Undersecretary of the Minis-

try of Public Works, Mohammad Al Sani, stressed that the minister should have a free hand in selecting his assistants. However, objectivity should be the criteria in its application to Kuwait, he added.

He commented that the proposed period of four years for senior posts is too short to complete a constructive job. He added that changing top officials of a ministry on the appointment of a new minister could produce adverse results.

Elucidating, he said that the new minister should first ascertain if his aides were efficient to execute their duties prior to any changes.

Remaining

However, Al Naqeeb said that this did not constitute his support of undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries remaining for long periods at their posts.

The Assistant Director General of the National Housing Authority Fareed Al Ajeeb pointed out that the new minister should be given a free hand in replacing his top aides. But, he said, that such vital decisions should be executed with the knowledge of the Council of Ministers.

On this extensively discussed and sensitive issue, most of the undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries including top administrators in the various ministries rejected the idea that their continuity in their posts should be the prerogative of the new minister.

Obstacle

They believed that such a step, if approved, would be an obstacle for the administrative reforms and constitute a major destabilising factor for senior ministry officials.

The majority were firm in their conviction that limiting the duration of their stay to a four-year period would prove inadequate for making plans and modernising the systems and departments.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

A turning point in US-Kuwait ties

THOSE who lack experience or knowledge about Arabs do so no more, as the visit by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla to the US gave a good impression of Kuwait and Arabs in general, a local daily stressed yesterday.

Daily "Al Rai Al Aam" editorially said that during his six-day working visit to Washington, Sheikh Saad was able to draw the American attention and that of the world to Arab causes through objective arguments and serious dialogue, "the shortest channels to the American mentality and the most effective on media and political circles."

His visit was full of life, something that is easily witnessed during his talks with senior US government and Congress officials in which Sheikh Saad re-emphasised the necessity of realising comprehensive and lasting peace for the 40-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper noted.

It cited that the Kuwaiti heir apparent addressed President Ronald Reagan as head of a friendly great country, while the US President hailed Kuwait's steadfastness and strong will which is reflected to bow to terrorism.

"The Crown Prince's visit was truly a prominent turning point in US-Kuwait and US-Arab relations as the leading Kuwaiti official was able to give a complete image of the Arab stance via simple and meaningful words," Al Rai Al Aam concluded.

Pay telephone bills, asks minister

THE Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan has urged telephone subscribers to settle their dues, failing which, the ministry would seek means to recover those outstandings.

The minister conceded that the ministry is finding it difficult to collect KD13 million of subscribers' unpaid bills for 1987.

However, through special arrangements, the ministry was successful in collecting an amount of KD14 million of the same year.

The official said that a study is currently underway to equate

fares of the overseas phone calls with those in foreign and Arab countries.

He added that another study is underway to provide chalets with telephone services and to determine the costs of such services.

Al Sharhan said that mistakes in bills was not solely the fault of the ministry, but, also that of the subscribers. He explained that some subscribers permitted friends and neighbours to use their phones and when bills were received forgot about the calls and claimed they were not made.

On mail distribution, he said that the auto-sorting process still faces some minor problems and that in general mail distribution did not have any problems.

Replies to a question on the maritime cable project linking Kuwait and Bahrain, the minister said that the project is held in abeyance due to the present special circumstances in the region.

Defence planning

KUWAIT'S Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad yesterday presided over a meeting of the higher committee for defence planning.

The minister urged more efforts and better performance by all the ministry's bodies.

The meeting, which was attended by undersecretary Faisal Al Dawood and other undersecretaries, was part of the ministry's administrative development programme.

Arab League envoy praises Kuwait press

WASHINGTON, July 16, (KUNA): Iraq has visited Syria, Iraq and Egypt since returning, about two weeks ago, from the pan-Arab summit in Algeria and a visit to London.

King Fahd was on hand to receive Hussein at the airport and talks between the two monarchs started shortly after. Attending on the Saudi side were Crown Prince Abdullah and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

Views

No official statements were made on the talks. Hussein is a frequent visitor to Saudi Arabia to exchange views with the influential Faud on issues of common interest.

The Palestinian problem and developments in the nearly 8-year-old Iraq-Iran war are usually the top items on their agenda. Fahd's oil-rich kingdom

brought up and the minister was informed that 76 firemen were deprived of this payment of appreciation.

Al Barrak disclosed that the minister had called for the setting up of a joint committee comprising members of the union and the administration to study amendments to the basic charter of the Social Security Fund of the municipality and Fire Department.

He added that the minister praised the union's proposal to set up a committee at the municipality to ensure that donations and part time allowances were distributed in an even handed manner.

Concluding, Al Barrak said that Al Rifai had assured the workers union that a study would be conducted into their demands.

Considered

Maksoud, although currently a diplomat, was a prominent Arab editor, journalist, writer, and academic who currently is considered one of the best Arab spokespersons in the United States.

Attending the luncheon were such prominent American per-

sonalities as the director of the United States Information Agency (USIA), the State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley and others.

Also present were leading

newsmen who regularly write on the Middle East in major American newspapers, wire services and television networks.

In a luncheon toast, ambassador Maksoud spoke highly about the Kuwaiti press, its important role not only in Kuwait, but in the whole Arab world and he also referred to the pan-Arab nationalistic principles that the Kuwait press advocates and stands for.

USIA director Charles Wick

also spoke about the importance of bridging the information gap between the US and the Arab world.

Tenders are invited for the supply of the following:

Tender No.	Material	Tender Fee	Issuing Date	Closing Date
7/P988	Stainless Steel Plates	KD. 2/-	16.7.1988	5.9.1988
7/R997	Gaskets	KD. 2/-	18.7.1988	5.9.1988
7/T096	Carbon Steel Plates	KD. 2/-	18.7.1988	5.9.1988

Tender documents can be purchased from the office of the HPPC secretary at KNPC Head Office on 1st floor, Room No. 57 as from above noted issuing date.

REQUIRED

A female executive secretary

for Al Noor Workshop

Mango delights

MANGO festivals at local hotels in Kuwait were an annual affair until 1984, when they suddenly stopped. This year, the festival was revived. Some 25 varieties of mangoes were displayed at the festival, opened by Mrs Zahid Saeed, wife of the Pakistani ambassador to Kuwait. Over 100 mango varieties were grown in Pakistan.

At the recent mango festival, some of the finest qualities like sindhi, chausa, lotta, mehri, desi, khare, sunehra duschi, surkh guab and others were used by the hotel chefs to create a variety of desserts.

The ripe mango is an important ingredient in many a pickle, sauce and garnish. The festival was held by the Shama International Trading Company in co-operation with the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel, which is promoting the exotic fruit for a week at its coffee shop.



Mrs Zahid Saeed (fifth left) pictured with ladies at the mango festival.



The Pakistani ambassador pictured with guests after the opening.

(Photos by Javed Basra)

Gulf Air holds reception

GULF AIR, Kuwait, recently hosted a reception to celebrate the introduction of Boeing 767-300 aircraft to its fleet. Gulf Air's manager in Kuwait, Saleh Al Kindy, said that the Boeing 767-300, an advanced type of aircraft, is now flying on the Kuwait route as well.

Al Kindy cut a cake to celebrate the addition of new aircraft to the Gulf Air fleet. Guests, who included a large number of diplomats, airline officials and travel agents, were treated to dinner. A raffle was also held and attractive prizes were presented to the winners.

The reception was held at the Kuwait Meridien Hotel.



A raffle winner receives a prize from Al Kindy.



Al Kindy (second left) cuts the cake as guests applaud.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Summer Belle 88

The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle 88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Gonsalves — 4314511; Thomas Pereumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradyil — 2422973.

Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

D'Assiesel Association
The association will hold a social evening-cum-variety show on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754, after 6 pm.

Onam Festival
The Viswabharathi Theatres, Abbasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Pereumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradyil — 2422973.

Arts
The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

More than 30 paintings, representing the work of a group of German artists known as The Blue Rider, will be shown in the Hilton's lobby. The show has been organised by the German Embassy in Kuwait.

Islamic Arts Museum
The museum in Jabiya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer evenings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

HOTELS

At the Hilton
La Palma has introduced a lunch and dinner buffet cycle featuring a variety of Arabic and international dishes, soups, mezzehs, salads and desserts to suit all tastes. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight.

At the Sheraton
Mangoes in the coffee shop: dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week.

At the Continental
The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialities. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

PBAK bowling tournament
The PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

At the Holiday Inn
Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel ... Al Ahmadi coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

At the Ramada
El Bendar coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 midnight; a la carte also featured.

At the Holiday Inn
The take-away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

At the Continental
The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

At the Sheraton
Mangoes in the coffee shop: dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week.

At the Holiday Inn
The Harp Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

At the Continental
The Hunt Room offers authentic English atmosphere and features a selection of the best grilled food; music by the solo harpist. Harp Dreams.

At the Meridien
La Brasserie, open from 12 noon to 4 pm, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

At the Holiday Inn
Beach the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge: musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

At the Continental
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The Hunt Room offers authentic English atmosphere and features a selection of the best grilled food; music by the solo harpist. Harp Dreams.

At the Meridien
La Brasserie, open from 12 noon to 4 pm, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

At the Holiday Inn
Beach the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge: musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

At the Continental
The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialities. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

PBAK bowling tournament
The PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

At the Holiday Inn
Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel ... Al Ahmadi coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

At the Sheraton
Mangoes in the coffee shop: dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week.

At the Holiday Inn
The take-away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

At the Continental
The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

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At the Holiday Inn
The take-away counter, open

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING can be honourable where justice is absent
— Cicero, Roman statesman-philosopher (106 BC-43 BC)

Japan scandals nothing unusual

By Naoko Nakamichi

TOKYO, (Reuters): Two financial scandals have recently rocked Japanese politics, but analysts say there is nothing unusual about the behaviour revealed — those involved are just unlikely that they were found out.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Friday apologised for his secretary's involvement in one of the scandals, in which some politicians' aides bought shares in a real estate company before they were publicly placed in 1984.

The secretaries of both the current Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and his predecessor Yasuhiro Nakasone were named as having been involved in the insider trading scandal.

What they did was not illegal under current insider trading rules but the embarrassment of the disclosure has already led to the resignation of the real estate company's chairman and the chairman of Japan's top financial newspaper.

Resigned

Four senior officials in the prime minister's office have also resigned in the past month as a result of a bribery scandal involving government advertising contracts for traffic safety campaigns.

In West Germany or other countries, it would have definitely brought down the government," said professor Toshihiko Hara of Tohoku University, who has studied in West Germany.

"But this kind of thing is happening every day and all over in Japanese politics. The only special thing is that this took place at the top level and got progressively unveiled," he said.

Takao Muroboshi, author of the book "The Structure of Corruption," agreed. Stock trading, he said, was increasingly used to channel funds to politicians after public criticism of the extravagant parties which politicians used to hold for company executives in return for large cash gifts.

Japanese companies have been known to give shares to politicians and arrange for them suddenly to jump in value as a way of disguising their political

contributions.

United stocks are a good vehicle for this sort of deal because there were virtually no regulations governing them, Muroboshi said.

"Companies have never been reluctant to pay money to politicians," Tohoku University's Hara said. "They are just searching for certain, safe and unobtrusive ways of money delivery."

Political analysts say one of the keys to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's long tenure in office is the attention paid by its politicians to doing favours, big or small, for constituents, especially businessmen and farmers.

"For individuals, the Liberal Democratic Party man in the village, to whom they occasionally give presents, will lend their son a job, or their daughter a nice husband," Hara said.

"Everybody is seeking to get favours out of politicians by supporting and serving them," Muroboshi added.

Corruption

Makoto Satake, an author on business subjects, said political corruption is especially common in the real estate business because politicians often know in advance about government development plans.

"The (share) scandal came probably only came to light because of dissatisfaction in the real estate company concerned due to the dictatorial character of the resigned chairman," he added.

Hara said he believed the money collected by such schemes was generally used by politicians to finance their political activities.

"Nobody can be really upset about the scandal. Everybody is doing more or less the same," he said.

"If anybody, people in big cities might be angry because they do not enjoy this kind of benefit from politicians. But you will have to wait until the next elections to find out how they feel about it," he added.

Bush's UN speech a political move

By Tom Raum

UNITED NATIONS, (AP): George Bush's speech to the UN Security Council voicing compassion for victims of an American-downed Iranian airliner while insisting that Iran share responsibility, gave the US vice-president a forum for displaying traits he has hoped to project in his presidential campaign.

The address on Thursday — in which Bush looked straight at his Iranian accuser and told him "of course we care" — was viewed by aides as a demonstration of his leadership, compassion and foreign-policy credentials.

Bush's expressions of regret went further than his past reaction to the downing of the plane, which he previously had called "just an unhappy incident" while telling audiences "life goes on."

"Anytime you can go and speak forcefully about bringing peace to that part of the world, it's worth doing," said Bush chief of staff Craig Fuller afterward. "He didn't do it for political reasons. But I do not believe it will be harmful politically."

Denounced

Bush, who was US ambassador to the United Nations from 1971 to 1973, denounced as "offensive and absurd" Iranian suggestions that the downing of Iran Air 655 claiming 290 people on July 3 was intentional or reckless.

And he told the world organization Iran "must bear a substantial measure of responsibility for what has happened" by refusing to divert the airliner away from a combat zone.

"There are three ways for Iran to avoid future tragedies," Bush said. "Keep airliners away from combat, stop attacking innocent ships. Or better still, the best way is peace."

He called for Iran to immediately adhere to a UN resolution calling for a cease-fire in the region.

American negotiators still wrestling with Soviet counterparts

Intermediate-range nuclear missile treaty verification procedures

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



Adm. William Crowe (left) and Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev

tion to the American efforts to keep the sea lanes in the Gulf open, for it is Japan, more than any other country, that depends for its oil on resources in the Gulf. Recent opinion polls show that Americans continue to be full of contempt for Iran, but this did not interfere with the decision that the United States would pay compensation to Iran for the loss of lives in the accident.

whether the Soviet government had indeed decided to switch its military forces to what could be called a "defensive strategy".

The Soviet defence minister then confirmed that this was indeed true, that a defensive doctrine was being implemented. To this Carlucci replied that American intelligence has yet to see any evidence of it. It takes time, the Soviet minister replied, but the evidence will gradually become visible.

Convention

American political conventions are a serious attempt at uniting the party in preparation for the ultimate struggle, the presidential election campaign, disguised as a gaudy, entertainizing circus production.

That of the Democrats begins in Atlanta, tomorrow. Michael Dukakis, the governor of Massachusetts, will be nominated as the Democrats presidential candidate. Nothing sensational is likely to happen and yet the organisers of the convention are terribly worried about its outcome.

Exchanges

These exchange visits between the American and Soviet military are unprecedented and hence significant.

The State Department originally opposed Akhromeyev's visit and carried its protest to the White House, but General Powell, the president's national security adviser, in turned has been invited to the Soviet Union in September.

Disturbing

The season is the unpredictable

of Jesse Jackson, who challenged Dukakis to the last, and the need for the party to project unity to the nation. The proceedings will be nationally televised and if people gain the impression that behind all the hoop-la there are deep divisions within the party, it could do a great deal of damage to the party, for the undecided voters may conclude that the Democrats are not ready to govern.

Compromise

They will also want to see whether the political compromises that have to be reached at every convention will appeal to the so-called swing voters who are likely to decide the outcome of this election. It will be important to them to learn more about the candidate who is still not well known across the country. Will he be the same man going into the convention assuming out of it, or will he have learned something new that will add to their perspective, their feelings about him.

If this will also matter whether the vice-presidential candidate will add a new dimension to the ticket or simply reinforces existing strengths in the party. Perhaps, most important, will be whether the Democrats at their convention create the impression that they are on the defensive or whether they are in shape to take the offensive.

Atmosphere

However self-serving, the appeal of Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to Iran's terrorist organisations not to avenge the downing of the airliner in order not to defile the forces under his command, is unlikely that he will be blamed for the air disaster.

The human catastrophe has raised anew the question in Congress and in the press whether, under these circumstances, the US Navy should remain in the Gulf, whether the US should continue to lean toward supporting Iraq and whether this accident has not opened up an opportunity for diplomatic initiatives to bring the war to an end.

All the indications point to the fact that President Reagan will keep the Navy in the Gulf to further strengthen the confidence among the Gulf states that they can count on American help in the absence of an internal political consensus which prevents the government from approaching any decisive conclusion.

It is likely, though, that the Japanese will come under increased pressure to make a more substantial financial contribution.

Treaty

However, whatever attempts were

made by the United States

behind the scenes led nowhere.

Iraq, feeling victorious, wants to

exploit the advantages it has

gained and the Iranians, unwilling

to admit the major set-backs

they have suffered, continue the

war in the absence of an internal

political consensus which

prevents the government from

reaching any decisive conclusion.

Meanwhile

General Akhromeyev has been given

some demonstrations of the

power of the American naval forces.

He was permitted from the

deck of one of the mighty aircraft

carriers to watch the take-off and

landings of American fighter bombers, in one case three of them taking off simultaneously,

something, I am told, left him in

awe.

Treaty

Even though the START

Treaty is still far from signature

and the conventional arms

control talks have hardly begun,

the military with the long lead-time

for weapons production and

their differences over what

weapons are dispensable, are

anxiously to know, for planning

purposes, of what adjustments

will become necessary in devising

a new force structure.

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Treaty

The Reagan administration

makes no secret of its disdain for

the Sandinistas, who in turn hold

Washington responsible for

several years of war against the

Contras which has cost 26,000

lives and shattered the economy.

During

the past seven years,

the Reagan administration has

financed the Contra rebels in

the war to overthrow the Sandinistas

and provided other covert support.

The United States cut off aid

to Nicaragua in 1981, blocked

loans, and enacted a trade

embargo in 1985. Bilateral talks

to resolve the problems were last

held in 1984 despite repeated

requests for renewal by the Sandinistas.

Washington

claims that the

Marxist-led Sandinistas repre-

sent a threat to US national

security interests by serving as a

beachhead for communism and

aiding the Marxist rebels fighting

the US-backed government in El Salvador.

Nonetheless

the two nations

maintain diplomatic relations.

The US embassy in Nicaragua

frequently entertains opposition

figures and handles visa applica-

tions.

Almost

a year ago, in a move

that took Washington off guard,

the nations in the region —

Nicaragua, El Salvador,

Guatemala, Honduras and

Costa Rica — signed a plan

to end civil wars and

hostilities among the Central

We've come a long way, baby

By Enamul Haq

THE women of Bangladesh have come a long way in their struggle to prove themselves a significant force in the nation. They are now a familiar sight in the political arena, administrative tiers, legislative floors, courts of law, seats of higher education, forums of diplomacy, and are also well-represented in challenging professions like medicine, banking, architecture, engineering, journalism and business management.

The emergence of Bangladesh in 1971 opened up new frontiers for its 50 million women. They figured prominently in all planning, under a general consensus that women are crucial to development and social transformation. Voting rights, equal status as citizens, the right to work — these are all enshrined in the constitution.

Measures have been taken to draw women into the stream of development and to enable them to participate in all spheres of national life. A separate ministry has been set up to deal with women's affairs; it has generally been headed by a woman minister. To ensure fair representation, a floor of 15 per cent has been imposed in



Bangladesh's health policy places an emphasis on producing primary health care facilities in rural areas.

government and autonomous bodies. In the health and population areas, over sixty per cent of the jobs are held by women.

During the Second Five Year Plan (ended June 1985), it was felt that a dynamic action programme was necessary to fuel more meaningful participation in the development process. Taka 310 million (about US \$10 million) was allocated to 25 projects aimed at achieving this objective. The results include 204 skill

development and production centres which train underprivileged women. More teacher training centres have been opened, with better hostel facilities; for career women, hostels have been set up at the four divisional headquarters.

Concern for the welfare of women has been reflected more fully in the Third Five Year Plan (1985-1990). In the health sector, for example, rural health services for women are to be established; maternal and child healthcare, family planning, nutrition, immunisation, family health education and sanitation are to be major components. About 21,000 field workers are offering family planning, maternity and child-care services to women in 1225

rural family welfare centres; these figures are expected to increase substantially in the course of the plan period. Voluntary agencies, domestic and foreign, play a significant role in this area.

Expand

Steps have been taken to accelerate and expand educational facilities. The third plan has given priority to education of rural women. Places are reserved for women in schools and colleges throughout the country while talented women are awarded special grants as well scholarships.

In the employment field, the objective is to ensure equal opportunities for women workers and to facilitate their



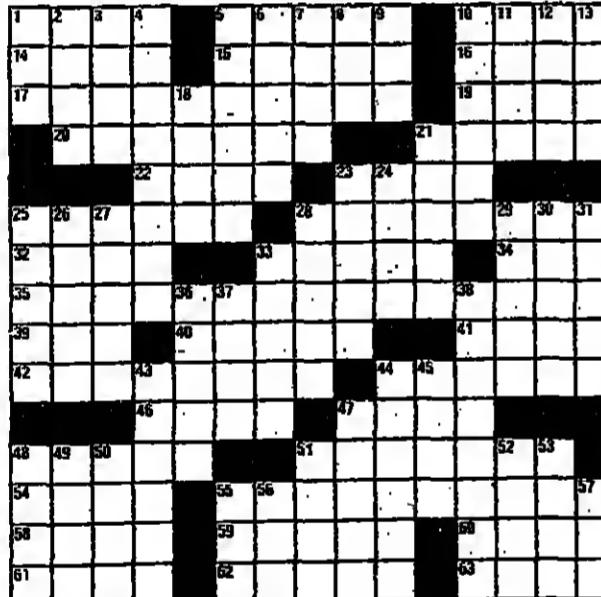
Educating women is part of the family planning programme.

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Begum Khaleda Zia (left) and Sheikh Hasina Wajed (right), leader of the two main opposition parties, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and

the Awami League respectively.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
 1 Catch sight of 3 Variety of
 5 Kraken natives 4 Tracks by a
 10 Year 5 Chalcedony
 14 Nevada tourist 6 Showing
 15 Canta 7 Composure
 16 Cabbage salad 8 Hilo garlands
 17 Some aviators' 9 Sea eagle
 18 Rational 10 Droop
 20 Barbs 11 St. Francis
 22 Imitated 12 Scottish family
 23 Andy's pal 13 unit
 25 Tried out 14 Keys
 28 Part of AFL 15 God of love
 32 Engrave 16 Disorderly
 33 Cheer up 17 Stadium sounds
 34 Biblical lion 18 An Adams
 35 With no 19 Pounds
 39 Legged it fast 20 Mushroom
 40 Pierce Arrows 21 Oriental nannies
 41 Aeria 22 Dole out
 42 West Indies 23 Aquarium fish
 islands 24 Revolutionary
 44 Annie — 25 Soldier Allen
 46 Fortuna-teller 26 Adron
 47 — the word 27 Aroma
 48 Scottish dances 28 Choir members
 51 Indicates 29 Desert
 54 Wood-dressing 30 Transport
 tool 31 — gritty
 55 High-rise 32 Organic
 structure 33 Compound
 58 Jazz trumpeter 36 Certain
 59 Singer Delta 37 Christmas
 60 Emperor or 38 Writer's
 pianist 39 Legged it fast
 61 The Saven — 40 Pierce Arrows
 62 Warhol and 41 Aeria
 others 42 West Indies
 islands 43 Baton
 44 Annie —
 46 Fortuna-teller
 47 — the word
 48 Scottish dances
 51 Indicates
 54 Wood-dressing
 tool
 55 High-rise
 structure
 58 Jazz trumpeter
 59 Singer Delta
 60 Emperor or
 pianist
 61 The Saven —
 62 Warhol and
 others
 63 Legal document

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ Q874 ♡ 85 ♢ KJ102 ♣ 953
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass
 What do you bid now?
A.—Make the same bid you would have made had there been no interference — a raise to two spades. If you elect to pass, you might find that by the time the bidding gets back to you it is at an uncomfortably high level, and you won't know whether or not to compete.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ QJ74 ♡ 9 ♢ A10762 ♣ 953
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
 What do you bid now?

A.—You have limited defensive capabilities but great offensive potential. Had East not interposed a bid, you would have jumped to four spades. Make the same bid now. If partner does have hearts as well, he will correct to four hearts.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ 985 ♡ QJ762 ♢ 83 ♣ A93
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 2 NT Pass
 What action do you take?

A.—Although partner's jump to two no trump is not forcing, just highly invitation, you should not pass unless you have a sub-minimum response. Here, you are full value for your bid. Since your hand is balanced, don't rebid your hearts. Simply raise to three no trump.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ KJ62 ♡ Q103 ♢ AJ983 ♣ 95
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 1 ♠ Pass
 What do you bid now?

A.—In support of spades, your hand revalues to 14 points. Since the equivalent of an opening bid facing an opening should be enough for game, jump to four spades. Don't bid only three spades; that would be invitation, and partner might pass with a minimum.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ 8 ♡ A10762 ♢ KJ854 ♣ 93

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Johnny Hart

YOUR STARS



Aries (March 21 - April 18)

You will be able to persuade others to do as you wish. However you should not be too demanding. Your private life will take a turn for the better. Be considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

At first there will be a degree of uncertainty but soon you will see your way more clearly. You will be able to meet someone very much to your liking. Remember that variety is the spice of life. Be benevolent.



Gemini (May 20 - June 21)

You should not take any new commitments just now if you can help it. Do not allow yourself to be affected too much by what you read in the papers.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

You will be able to spend the day in pleasant company. Make sure that you pay your fair share. Avoid saying anything you do not really mean. Be more attentive.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The prospects are quite good but you should not expect too much. Make sure you have considered the alternatives carefully before deciding on what to do. Do not suffer fools gladly. Be moderate.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's better influence in conjunction with that of Mercury will help you to sort out a personal problem. You will be successful with something that has been on your mind.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Your personal affairs will make somewhat better progress. Avoid getting into an argument. Make sure you do not eat too many fatty or sweet things. Be decisive.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will find it easier to make up your mind. You should try not to get between a friend and his partner. A little more goodwill will go a very long way. Be tolerant.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Some relatively small matter will cause you considerable concern. Mars' influence will however help you to deal with it. Do not be swayed by events. Be positive.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should avoid gloomy thoughts — cheer up. Try not to make a difficult situation even worse. Refrain from clutching at straws. Be more polite.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should make yourself a little more approachable instead of retreating into yourself. Listen carefully to what others have to say. By all means relax but do not allow your attention to wander too far.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will feel easily irritated and should keep out of the way of arguments. You should try to take a little more interest in what is happening around you. Do not say everything that is on your mind.

A blessing in disguise

By Saffron Davies

THERE'S no getting away from it: women are fat creatures. If your bathroom scales tip 60 kg, then about 18 of those kilograms are accounted for by body fat. In fact, the average woman is made up of approximately 30 per cent fat compared with a typical figure for men of only 15-20 per cent. The battle against the blubber is the curse of many women. And yet, it seems, the absolute amount of body fat is an important fertility factor; too little of it and women become infertile.

The Third Plan has allocated Taka 500 million (about US \$16 million) for women's uplift projects. Another Taka 160 million (US \$5 million) is expected from non-government organisations. Major projects include the establishment of skill development, training and production centres, daycare centres for the children of working mothers, more hostels for career women, the strengthening of women's and children's academies, and training and rehabilitation centres for socially handicapped women.

Protect

Stringent laws have been enacted over the years to protect women from oppression and the ancient dowry system which alone is responsible for the destruction of thousands of homes. The minimum age at which girls may get married has been raised from 16 to 18. Early marriage led to a higher birth rate and cut short their education. Important amendments have been made to Muslim family laws, making it difficult for men to take more than one wife, and facilitating speedy adjudication of family disputes. Muslim courts right down to the upazila level have been given the jurisdiction of family courts so that men and women of small means do not have to travel too far to seek justice. Family disputes can also be taken to counselling boards at the village and union levels. Under the government's new programme for distribution of state land to landless and subsistence level peasants, care has been taken to ensure that legal ownership goes to both husband and wife.

Study

Strangely, this historical link of fatness and fertility actually makes a lot of biological sense. For a girl to begin and then maintain her normal menstrual cycles throughout her reproductive years, she must have a threshold level of body fat. Excessive dieting, or its more extreme form of anorexia nervosa, can result in a loss of menstrual cycles and reversible infertility. Normal cycles will only start again when an appropriate amount of fat has been accumulated.

This is not simply a question of body weight, because the same loss of fertility happens to athletes undergoing intense training. They may not be thin, nor underweight but they sacrifice their fatty tissues and build up their muscles instead. Menstrual cycles either stop or become very irregular.

A careful study of a female bodybuilder highlighted this phenomenon perfectly. She does not run, jog or dance but concentrates on building up her muscles with exercise machines. When she is

at her peak, she has a lot of body fat, which was more or less slumped upon. Back in the early Seventies, Rose Frisch and her colleague, Roger Revelle, at Harvard University were gathering information about heights, weights and calorie supplies of communities in Asia and Latin America. They were trying to estimate the world's food requirements.

While analysing all the information, they found that the age at which girls had their most rapid growth in weight (an event preceding the first menstruation or menarche) was dependent on a girl's weight rather than age. In other words, girls from communities with poor nutritional standards had a later growth spurt and menarche compared with heavier girls with a good calorie supply.

Principle

That, perhaps, was not so surprising but when they found that during the growth spurt most girls more than doubled their body fat (with a much smaller increase in lean mass), they began to suspect that fat may be the vital clue.

After many years of careful study this has proved to be so. Adolescent girls need at least 17 per cent of their body weight in fat before they can start menstruating. Hence, very thin girls, young athletes, dancers and the like, are often quite late in starting their periods.

The answer seems to lie in the fact that fat tissues store sex hormones. When fatty tissues are at a low ebb they convert their stores of sex hormones into oestrogens with low biological activity.

Ilocano youth join pro-Marcos group

A BIG group of Ilocano youth have initially enlisted with the militant Civilian Marcos Loyalist (CML) organisation, in what could be a closing of ranks of pro-Marcos supporters in Ilocos region and Metro Manila.

The affiliation rites were held recently at the spot near the Laaag International Airport where the CML had pitched camp the past 34 days to demand the reopening of the airport.

Declaring "if the giant is sleeping, the children are not," the Ilocano youth vowed to take more active role in Loyalist movements anywhere in the country.

This move was a reaction of the youth group to misgivings expressed by Manila loyalists that many Ilocanos elders especially former friends and cronies were foot dragging and less vocal fighting a Marcos cause.

The mass induction of Ilocano youngsters was witnessed by former presidential assistant to then Pres. Marcos, Lito Gorospe and CML national president Anthony Santos.

Youth leaders Edwin Factora and Manny Agustin declared that thousands more of Ilocano youths both in and out of school, would march around Laaag City in a show of force and motivation.

Ilocos Norte CML president Rudy Perucho said his group planning a big march with the participation of its town and barangay unit chapters.

CML national president Anthony Santos said their organisation approved the Ilocano youth's affiliation to help them become great assets of their region by way of instilling awareness and consciousness.

Santos said their membership will be just like any other school club, only this time they will not only be concerned with their school's affairs but the entire nation's.

The council of leaders of the CML, meanwhile, announced the appointment of engineer-businessman Rodulfo Perucho as president for Ilocos Norte.

Perucho prior to his appointment was president of the CML Cabeza chapter in Laaag City.

MNLF rebels surrender

A TOTAL of 337 foreign-trained fighters of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front under Nur Misuari have surrendered in Tawi-tawi.

Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermida, who received the surrenders during a visit to that southernmost province recently said that the government is expecting 700 secessionist rebels to give themselves up in the next few months.

Ermida said the surrender is significant in that it could mean the secessionist movement is "crumbling." He said the rebels told him they have not been getting financial and logistical support to sustain their struggle.

Strongest

The MNLF secessionists are divided into three factions — Misuari's being considered by the military as the strongest.

The rebels, led by MNLF commander Hatib Gunmahali, will be allowed to avail themselves of the government's amnesty programme. Ermida said the provincial government of Tawi-tawi, in co-ordination with the military, has begun processing the papers of the surrenders. They will be given medical treatment, accommodation and post-surrender means of livelihood.

PCGG to investigate missing Jai Alai funds

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) is set to start an investigation into reports that former Commodore Alfredo "Bejo" Romualdez, brother of former First Lady Imelda Marcos, pocketed P76 million of Jai Alai proceeds when he still headed its operations.

The funds, which Romualdez allegedly deposited in a Metro Manila bank before his sister fled to Hawaii with deposed President Marcos two years ago, is missing since the PCGG took over the Philippine Jai Alai and Amusement Corporation, Inc.

A PCGG official directly involved in the sequestration of the PJAC told reporters that a special stockholders' meeting will be called "anytime now" to elect a new board of directors.

The official, who spoke on condition he is not identified, said PCGG fiscal agents may be involved in hiding the missing Jai Alai funds, and in other anomalies at the PJAC.

Guns become a necessity in the Philippines

Terror stalks Manila streets

By Criselda Yabes

MANILA, (Reuter): Philippine Congresswoman Lorna Yap keeps gold and diamond jewelleries on her bedroom dresser. Nearby, she keeps a closet full of guns.

As right-wing death squads, communist rebels and common criminals daily spill blood on Manila's streets, many Filipinos now look on a gun as a necessary safety precaution.

"For as long as the military is not able to explain why the killers have not been caught, I will continue to keep my guns," Yap said in an interview.

Guns are part of daily life in the Philippines.

Security guards at buildings tote sawn-off shotguns. Supermarket shoppers and coffee shop patrons sometimes carry a pistol in their belts. Sports shops sell holsters and specially designed shoulder bags with space for ammunition.

Many clubs, shops and cinemas see nothing unusual in displaying signs at their doors asking customers to "please deposit firearms and other weapons with the security guard."

The military estimates there are at least 400,000 "loose" or unregistered firearms and tens of thousands more carried legally.

President Corazon Aquino's only son, Benigno, wounded during a coup attempt last year, these days takes part in shooting tournaments with his .45 pistol.

Lejomar Binay, mayor of Manila's financial and diplomatic Makati district, carries a Ger-



Congresswoman Lorna Yap, still all dressed up after a day at the office, prepares to fire her favourite Uzi machine pistol in an underground sound-proof firing range in her suburban home.

man-made Walther PPK, James Bond's trademark, in his pocket.

Binay, nicknamed "Ram-hottito" for his display of weapons, subscribes to the view that a gun offers security in modern Manila.

"If you know your enemies have guns, you must also have them just in case ... sort of like a

balance of terror," Binay said.

Congressmen last year voted themselves special authority to import the latest in personal handguns.

Local politicians are often accused of stockpiling weapons for their own private armies.

The Philippines has its own gun-making industry but the

popular obsession with firearms has boosted gun-running.

Each month at Manila's international airport officials seize dozens of pistols and rifles together with thousands of rounds of ammunition concealed in boxes of dirty clothes, fruit crates and even sardine cans.

Military sources said soldiers

themselves were widely believed to be behind the gun-running business, as well as influential politicians and businessmen.

A .45 pistol bought in the United States for 450 dollars will fetch three times the price on Manila's black market.

The recent spate of political killings in Manila's streets has prompted calls for controls and moves to, as the local press put it, "deglamorise the cult of the gun."

"It is high time something was done about loose guns," the conservative Manila Times said in an editorial.

At the height of last year's bloody coup attempt, Congresswoman Yap lugged her Uzi machine-gun into the lower house chamber amid a storm of criticism.

"Neither my husband nor my bodyguards were around," she explained with a shrug.

A sharpshooter in her spare time, Yap shares her passion for guns with her husband, Colonel Adelberto Yap, Aquino's former chief aide-de-camp. She said their collection ranges from a .32 pistol to a grenade launcher.

Underneath their two-storey suburban home, the Yaps built a sound-proof firing range where the Congresswoman practises with her favourite Uzi machine pistol.

"Guns belong to a world of their own," the Congresswoman said as she flicked on the light in her wardrobe, revealing an array of guns and accessories.

"It's just being practical. I just can't throw them away ... they're like jewellery," she said.

ASEAN proposes aid package

By Chay O. Florentino

THE Philippines will need \$8-\$10 billion in foreign aid the next four years to ease poverty and unemployment, said a statement circulated recently among foreign ministers of ASEAN and its major trading partners.

The statement was issued by the Philippines in Bangkok at the opening of three days of annual talks between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its partners.

The international aid plan, also called the "polysectoral programme" for the Philippines will be taken up between the ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, on the one hand, and their counterparts from Japan, Australia, United States, New Zealand Canada, and the European Community, on the other.

Poverty

The statement said the Philippines needs the \$10-billion additional development aid to bring down to 45 per cent the number of Filipino families living below the poverty line, absorb 750,000 new workers into the labour force, and reduce the current 2.1 million unemployed put to use.

The Philippines is finalizing "integrated packages of high impact, high visibility projects" in each region which can be used to show the effectiveness of the programme, the statement said.

The projects planned for each region consist of the development of roads, ports, telecommunications and power. Besides providing capital, donor countries can also extend technical assistance.

The proposed aid package for the Philippines got a boost when ASEAN foreign ministers in a final joint communiqué called for its immediate implementation.

Star chooses career over school

By Pete Ampoloquo, Jr



Dingdong Avanzado: I may not be the reigning star of the hour but I'm slowly realizing my goal!

for me, it's not just but a lark or an expensive pastime. Honestly, I intend to make out of it a career. The school may be a good institution but it always can wait. The same thing cannot be said with a showbiz career though. It only comes once in a lifetime and I intend to make the most out of it."

This early napiging biktima na rin si Dingdong ng mga parents lately: "Yeah," he avers. "They're quite supportive now. Nakita naman kasi nilang hindi nasayang ang efforts ko. I may not be reigning star of the hour but I'd like to think that I'm slowly realizing my goal."

Started

Dingdong started his singing career May of last year when he auditioned for a possible part of the singing group New Minstrels. He was fortunately accepted but he left the group after a month for he wanted to comment about it, he's simply non-committal.

"It would be nice siyogu if we talk about other things na lang," he coys says. "I hope you do understand."

Tall

Well, kung ganyan na naman ka-sweet at ka-gentle ang makiusap sa yo, bakit ang hindi? We're no sadist after all and we do — understand everything about human nature.

But in fairness naman kay Dingdong hindi naman siguro magandang tawag siyang isang pandak since he stands five feet six inches naman when

barefooted and for a Filipino, that's not really bad. Kung si Janno ngay wala yata ng five four pero binibit ang tinatawag na borsa, bat' naman nila gagammin yong tao? One thing more, sa showbusiness naman, it's the talent that's first and foremost at secondary, na lang bale ang height at iba pang bagay.

Kaya kung totoo ngang mag-on na sila ng unica hija nina Joey at Daria Ramirez, dapat pa naga-siangan na daligang ni Joey de Leon na kung paniwalain mo ang mga bal-balita ay masyado raw against sa kanya dahil ayaw raw nitong malahing ang pandak ang kaniang lahi. Asked to comment about it, he's simply non-committal.

Na ngayon naga palapal patuloy pa rin si Dingdong sa pagpuro ng kariyang latest single entitled Here I Am, a composition actually of his bosom friend Romualdo Raymundo and Cousin Edward. As compared to his first name medyo fast ang beat, ballad na man at so far ay maganda naman raw ang feedback. Isang bagay na hindi dapat pagtakhan dahil maganda naman talagang interpretation dito ng aking binisita.

In the near future, he dreams of generating the movies also but he says it would have to be a wholesome role. But at the moment, he'd rather concentrate on his singing career and the beautiful things that it has to offer.

At this point in his life when his career is doing adequately well, the chunky-eyed singer candidly admits that he's missing school and the campus life that goes with it. "But I've got no choice," he reasons out. "I have already invested a lot of time in here and

Filipino maids to be allowed into US

AMERICAN military and civilian personnel assigned in the Philippines are now allowed to take their Filipino maids with them to the United States.

A US embassy message circulated on Suhi naval base said US Immigration and Naturalization Service Regulations now permit US government personnel and certain American private citizens, who are regularly working in the Philippines but are assigned in the US for periods of more than four years at a time, to employ Filipino domestics while they are in the US.

The message said these Filipino domestics may enter the US on business (B-L) visas. The visa will be annotated "domestic

employee of US military member (or US citizen business person) on assignment in US for less than four years."

A domestic employee will be required to present a valid passport, a filled-up non immigrant visa application form with one identification photo, and evidence that he or she has been employed by an American for more than six months and that he or she had at least one paid experience as a domestic help.

Also, a copy of employer's official transfer orders or other documentation indicating transfer to the US for a specific period of time should be presented when applying for a visa.



Top teams vie for basketball title



Action shot from one of the qualifying matches.

Calacay and of course the tenacity and non-nonsense playing style of Limdemes on all areas, are among the factors to watch in this year's basketball championship.

All things considered, the team with the most number of breaks will win this year's basketball title.

Besides the glory and fame that goes with the title, a total of 90 trophies and 300 medals shall be awarded to the winning teams and players who come to the awarding ceremonies on July 29 at Keifan Gym. So as to make this year's Palaro the most memorable & colourful ever, a special entertainment number is being prepared by the Kapilok Executive Committee. A total of 10 special awards shall also be given to the winners selected by a panel group of judges. Among these are, Most Valuable Player, Best Cheering Squad, Most Behaved Team, Best Team Uniform, Best Team Coach, Best Team Manager, Mythical Five, Rookie Player of the Year, Best Referee, and Palaro Pilipino Music for 1988 — Ms. Josephine Generoso of Al-Adan Hospital/Fisher Electronics.

Winners and champions of other completed events are the following:

Women's volleyball: Al Adan Hospital/Fisher — Champion; Al Jaha Hospital/Al Ghani Freight —

1st Runner-up: Women's basketball: Al Jaha Hospital/Al Ghani Freight — Champion; Al Adan Hospital/Fisher — 1st Runner-up

Drama: Atlanta, Gulf & Pacific Co. IAG&P — Champion; RIC — 1st Runner-up.

Lawn tennis:

A. Men's singles: Gulf Paper Mfg. Co. — Champion; Atlantic, Gulf & Pacific Co. (AG&P) — 1st Runner-up; EEMC — 3rd Runner-up.

B. Men's doubles: EEMC — Champion; Gulf Paper Mfg. Co. — 1st Runner-up; Shuaiba Port & Associates, Inc. — 3rd Runner-up.

C. Ladies singles: Sally Rioja — Champion; Flor Gumbon — 1st Runner-up; Marian Ambas — 2nd Runner-up; Wila Aly — 3rd Runner-up.

Marathon:

3 km race: S. Bonto (AG&P) — Champion; W. Nolascio (SACM) — 1st Runner-up; A. Escobella (AG&P) — 2nd Runner-up; E. Bolata (Kawali Leather) — 3rd Runner-up.

Table tennis: G. Barredo (AG&P) — Champion; F. Cama (KGPBC) — 1st Runner-up; B. Aragones (RIC) — 2nd Runner-up; E. Magulumb (AG&P) — 3rd Runner-up.

10 km race: G. Bona (KGPBC) — Champion; A. Factor (AG&P) — 1st Runner-up; G. Canalla (GZ) — 3rd Runner-up.

Schedule of matches for the champion ship round:

Friday July 22

Table tennis — Championship match for both men's & ladies singles will be played on the hardcourt from 8:30 am to 11:30 am.

Men's volleyball: 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm — AG&P vs RIC.



ENRICO Wallenda (top) and his wife Debbi execute a mid-air crossover without net while suspended some 75 feet above the Circus Parade public show grounds in Milwaukee, USA. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHILDREN play in the sea, ignoring unconfirmed reports that the Lebanese sea-shore is polluted with toxic waste. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Rev. Jesse Jackson receives a warm welcome from a young fan after his bus stopped in Nashville on Friday en route to the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE official insignia of the NASA STS 27 mission was released on Thursday. The insignia depicts the space shuttle's return to manned space flight. The design also commemorates the memory of the Challenger crew, represented by the seven stars. The STS 27 mission is scheduled for launch in October, 1988. (Reuter wirephoto)



SPECTATORS at the British Open golf championships sit under umbrellas beneath the leader board during the third round of the tournament yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



MAHMOUD Nour Al Deen, accused of leading an underground Egyptian revolutionary organisation, enters a state security court yesterday to appeal for release from prison until trial in October. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Queen Mother inspects the 8th battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment at Kostal Priory. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHICAGO Park District employee Robert Walkowicz shows how his plastic-tubing barrier will contain small pools to soak tree roots. (Reuter wirephoto)



RAISA Gorbachev, wife of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, lays flowers at the foot of the 'Wall of Death' during a visit to the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz in southern Poland on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Economy stronger than expected

Fed chief keeps them guessing on Wall Street

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Alan Greenspan has made his intentions clear to Wall Street: The US Federal Reserve either will, or will not, tighten credit further in the weeks ahead.

Making his midsummer appearance before a congressional committee on Wednesday, the Central Bank chairman expressed a goodly measure of concern about the prospect of increased inflation in the United States if economic growth begins to strain the capacity of production facilities and the labour force.

As a result, he said, the Federal Reserve "might be well advised to err more on the side of restrictiveness rather than of stimulus."

OPEC urged to push up prices by reducing output

NICOSIA, July 16. (Reuter): Iran called on all oil producing countries today to push up prices by reducing output.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the call was made by Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqaqazadeh in an interview with the station.

It also quoted him as saying the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) should abide by its decisions and avoid bringing bilateral quarrels to the group.

Co-operation

The minister called for co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers but accused Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE of undermining the market by ignoring OPEC decisions.

Meanwhile, OPEC secretary-general Dr Subroto believes that OPEC will be entering "dangerous terrain" if its members allowed themselves to take unilateral decisions regarding production matters.

He was speaking to a correspondent of "Deutsche Welle", the external service of the West German Radio on Tuesday about his forthcoming visit to the UAE.

All OPEC members were concerned about overproduction, he added.

Subroto is also to deliver a letter from OPEC conference president Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman to UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

He said he would like to discuss, while in the emirates, the long and short-term effects of national production policies on the world oil market.

Quotas

Hesitated that OPEC members did not have output "quotas", but "temporary production levels" and, therefore, an agreement on "production ceilings" did not prejudice the future possibility of allocating permanent quotas to member countries.

Expressing concern about the president downward trend in oil prices, Subroto said this was no more than "simple economics". "If there is more oil on the market, the price goes down."

He added: "Of course, we want to see better prices, but that also means that production will have to be reduced."

He said all countries which were now overproducing, regardless of whether they were OPEC or non-OPEC, should practise restraint.

Calling for better understanding between OPEC and non-OPEC producers, Subroto said he hoped for more permanent relationship between the two producer groups.

"Although there are problems, the political will for co-operation is there," he said.

He expressed confidence that OPEC and non-OPEC would ultimately come to an agreement or an understanding to co-operate, "hopefully, next year."

He said although, at present, Iraq was not a signatory to the OPEC production and price agreement, as an OPEC member country it still had the moral obligation to co-ordinate its oil policies in accordance with the interest of its fellow members of the organisation.

Loan agreement

THE World Bank and a group of 55 Japanese regional banks signed an eight-year loan agreement totalling 15 billion yen (\$19 million) this week in Tokyo.

The loan carries 5.5 per cent interest a year, payable semi-annually, and matures on June 10, 1996. The Bank of Yokohama is lead manager and agent for the loan.

At the same time, however, he said higher interest rates were not inevitable, and indicated he was in no rush to raise the discount rate — the rate the Federal Reserve charges on loans to private financial institutions, and one of its most visible tools for influencing trends in money and credit.

The next morning, a headline in one major newspaper declared "Greenspan signals higher interest rates," while another reported, "Greenspan sees stable credit."

In a day's work for Wall Street's watchers, the job description for the top job at the Federal Reserve stresses the ability to talk before Congress

for long periods of time without saying much of anything.

Some find this sort of being offensive, arguing that an organisation with as much power as the Federal Reserve should be more accountable to the citizenry and their elected representatives in a democracy.

The stock market behaved through the past week as if it had learned nothing startlingly new about the bank's intentions. Prices meandered in a narrow range, and the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks on Friday at 2,129.45, up 23.30 points from the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose .84 to 153.65; the Nasdaq com-

posite index for the over-the-counter market gained .26 to 394.59; and the American Stock Exchange market value index increased .29 to 309.31.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 175.20 million shares a day, against 163.40 in the previous week.

As circumspect as he was about the future, Greenspan did confirm that the Federal Reserve took a series of steps during the spring toward lighter credit when it became increasingly clear that the economy was stronger than expected.

"Scepticism about the Fed's resolve to resist inflationary pressures persists," observed David Resler, economist at

Nomura Securities International, in a midyear appraisal of the outlook.

"Many suspect that the Fed will be too slow to take necessary action against inflation during the election year."

However, Resler said, "the three credit tightening moves that the Fed took over an eight-week span in the second quarter ought to assuage fears that the Fed will not respond quickly and decisively to inflation pressures whenever they surface."

"Moreover, the financial markets' hypersensitivity to signs of inflation renders fruitless any attempts to steer the economy along an unwarranted growth path."

Iraq has a strong oil industry

BAGHDAD, July 16. (OPECNA): As Iraq celebrates the 20th anniversary of the July 17 revolution on Sunday, it can look back with satisfaction on the fact that nearly 60 percent of its territory has been seismologically surveyed as part of an oil prospecting plan.

Iraq, a founding member of OPEC, maintains oil co-operation links with nearly 50 countries, providing technical and consultancy services to many Arab states in their oil exploration efforts.

The country has succeeded in building a strong national oil industry which is self-sufficient in all sectors, including refining and marketing.

More than 50 new oilfields have been discovered over the

last two decades, while new oil exporting outlets have been found with the help of new pipelines across Turkey and Saudi Arabia to the Mediterranean and Red Sea ports.

The country's oil exports, hampered by the closure of its oil outlets on the Gulf because of the conflict and the Syrian decision in 1982 to close the Iraqi pipeline which ran across its territory, have found fresh outlets through two new pipelines.

One line is currently carrying 1.50 million BPD of crude across Turkey, while the second stage of a pipeline across Saudi Arabia is set for completion by September 1989. This will increase overall capacity to 1.65 million BPD. The first stage involving 500,000 BPD was commissioned in

October 1985.

Work is also underway on a second strategic pipeline linking Iraq's northern and southern oil-fields. The line with a capacity of 900,000 BPD will be completed by 1991. The first line was commissioned in 1975.

The new project aims at providing Iraq with additional capacity to pump oil in both directions and also to feed its refineries and power generating stations.

The discovery of huge oilfields in the country with substantial reserves has prompted Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi to describe Iraq as "a country floating on an oil lake." Iraq has set aside \$11.50 billion for development this year, with 42 per cent going to industry and agriculture.

Under the plan, 1,298 projects will be implemented, including 135 in agriculture, 207 in industry, 209 in transport and communications, 467 in construction and public services and 203 in education.

Since 1968, the year of the revolution, numerous development projects costing billions of dollars have been built throughout the country, including irrigation dams, reservoirs, transport and health facilities, oil and petrochemical plants, educational and scientific centres and industrial and agricultural schemes. Many of them are the most ambitious of their kind in the Middle East.

US drought could affect economic growth

WASHINGTON, July 16. (Reuter): A devastating drought could slow US economic growth slightly this year as farm production falls, food prices rise and transportation costs soar, a report on Friday by President Reagan's drought task force said.

In its second interim report on the impact of the unrelenting drought, the interagency task force said economic growth in America could be slowed by 0.2 percentage points.

The estimate, however, did not represent an official revision of the government's forecast of three per cent growth in the 1988 GNP, said an official with the White House council of economic advisors.

"We're not changing our (GNP) estimate. It stands," the official said.

Drought

The drought has already cut the US grain crop by 24 per cent, and the soybean crop by 13 per cent compared to last year. "These losses are large and irreversible at this point," the report said.

Recent light rains have not provided significant relief to crops being baked by record high temperatures, and the drought has worsened in the eastern corn belt and the southeast just as crops enter a critical growth stage.

However, the report said, total grain supplies are sufficient to meet US and foreign demand, although prices will be higher.

Exports of US grains in 1988/89 are projected to fall by 10 per cent from the previous season to 87.0 million tonnes. The report said US officials have assured foreign customers that trade will not be cut off because of the drought.

Manila expands food production

AGRICULTURAL production in the Philippines will expand, farmers' incomes will increase and the country will progress toward food self-sufficiency because of a nationwide irrigation project. The World Bank is supporting the project with a \$45 million loan.

The \$60.2 million project will improve operations and maintenance of the country's national irrigation system (NIS) and is expected to directly benefit about 430,000 farm families, or 2.6 million people, according to World Bank News.

Despite wider May deficit

Improving US trade trend intact

WASHINGTON, July 16. (Reuter): The US trade deficit widened slightly in May after two months of substantial declines, but officials and most Wall Street economists said the improving trend remained intact.

The government said on

Friday the trade gap, after eliminating seasonal variations, widened to \$10.93 billion in May from \$10.30 billion in April, as a 2.3 per cent increase in exports was outstripped by a 3.4 per cent rise in imports.

Despite the Cassandra warnings predicting a dramatic increase in the merchandise trade deficit, the rise was minimal. The American export boom continued unabated," said William Arbey of the US Chamber of Commerce.

But some economists remained worried that, unless the economy cools, the improvement would start to fade.

"I continue to be encouraged by reasonably good levels of export growth," said Steve Rosch, an economist with New York investment bank Morgan

Stanley and Co. Inc. "The dark side of the equation continues to be imports."

In the current environment of firm domestic demand in the US, especially for capital goods, I think we will be hard-pressed to maintain the deficit at its present reduced level," Rosch said, predicting it may rise back into the \$11 to 12-billion range in the next few months.

Benefit

Exporters are reaping the benefit of the 50 per cent decline in the dollar between 1985 and 1987, which made American goods cheaper overseas.

But since January the dollar has risen 20 per cent against the mark and 12 per cent against the yen in response to rising US interest rates and the improving US trade balance.

The following are the seasonally adjusted monthly figures on the US merchandise trade deficit. The merchandise trade count

excludes earnings from such non-merchandise items as banking and insurance (figures are in billions of dollars).

Jan.	1988	1987	1986	1985
11.27	14.73	13.40	10.29	
Feb.	14.41	13.53	11.27	11.45
March	11.70	13.82	12.71	11.05
April	10.30	13.24	13.11	11.85
May	10.92	14.07	11.99	12.67
June	15.06	11.53	13.42	
July	13.85	12.81	10.51	
Aug.	15.08	13.56	9.90	
Sept.	13.94	14.63	15.55	
Oct.	15.56	12.71	11.45	
Nov.	13.62	14.66	13.68	
Dec.	13.80	12.74	17.37	
Total	10.32...	15.14...	14.49	

(rounded) ...

Total recently was revised to

\$133.65 billion to take into account more accurate US-Canada trade figures. But the revision does not show up in the monthly figures, so 1985 figures are not comparable to 1986 monthly figures. — a record high.

Plan to develop petrochemicals

Venezuela makes huge investments

CARACAS, Venezuela, July 16. (API): Local investors and foreign companies are investing billions of dollars to expand Venezuela's petrochemicals industry.

West Germany's Veba Oel, Italy's Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi-ENI, and Norway's Norsk Hydro have formed joint ventures with Venezuelan public and private investors to produce a broad range of exportable industrial products from natural gas

and petroleum derivatives.

Venezuelan officials say their five-year investment plan will turn what is now a \$300 million trade deficit in the sector into a foreign exchange surplus of \$600 million by the early 1990s.

The objective is to gain the technological capacity that the foreign firms have and their market access, and also to attract financing," said Hugo Finol, president of Petroquimica de Venezuela S.A., an affiliate of

the state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.

According to Pequiven's 1988-92 programme, investments totalling \$2.8 billion will be made to create or increase capacity for making a wide range of petrochemical products that can substitute for imports or generate foreign exchange earnings.

Although most of the investments call for local funding, the programme includes \$1.2 billion in joint ventures, of which the

Venezuelans hope to attract \$900 million from foreigners.

Three major projects designed specifically for export have been finalised. They are:

— Superocitanos, S.A., a joint venture of Pequiven, ENI

affiliate Ecofuel and local private investors, will produce 500,000 metric tons a year of MTBE, a non-lead octane booster, by 1990. The only other MTBE plant of this size in the world is in Saudi Arabia.

Oil prices firm slightly

LONDON, July 16. (Reuter): Crude oil prices were firmer on world spot markets on Friday, but business remained choppy and the tone was mixed and nervous, traders said.

Prices rose around 20 cents per barrel late in US trade on Thursday, and the gains were extended in Europe on Friday, before sentiment weakened towards the close.

The gains were prompted by technical buying, and a background of confused market fundamentals.

Gains

Traders said that US operators, notably the "Wall Street refiners" — big financial institutions which have become increasingly involved in oil trading in recent years — have been selling contracts on the gasoline futures markets and balancing positions by buying on the crude oil futures markets.

This led on Thursday to short-term gains on the crude contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the main US oil futures exchange, and other prices on the world spot oil markets.

Prices were dragged up as well. However, the week ended as it had begun on

Kuwait trade volume dips

Price indices show more stability

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on July 13, an average of 39.33 points with an increase of 0.39 point over last week's average. Alshall Index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.11 points with an increase of 0.20 point for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 54.22 million shares at a daily average of 10.84 million shares with a decrease of 36 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 16.93 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 20.10 million shares at a daily average of 4.02 million shares with a decrease of 17 per cent from last week's daily average of 4.83 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD15.323 million at a daily average of KD3.065, a decrease of 14 per cent from last week's daily average of KD3.571 million. The value of Gulf traded shares was KD1.245 million at a daily average of KD0.370 million a decrease of 15 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.435 million.

The performance of the market was weak in general, with obvious weakness in trading volumes and values while price indices showed more stability.

On a series of continuous decisions to allow banks to repurchase 10 percent of their shares, Al Ahli Bank was permitted to do so this week which created some anticipations that more banks and companies are going to follow suit. As a result the banking sector had the lead with higher total traded shares at 66 per cent compared with last week's average of 41 per cent, of which Burgan Bank had 22.7 per cent. The Commercial Bank had 21.2 per cent and Al Ahli Bank 20.8 per cent. The services sector, in spite of a sharp decline, came second at 17 percent of total trading volume—38.7 per cent for the previous week—which of Kuwait Commercial Markets Co. had the lead at 83 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems at 13 per cent and Public Warehousing Co. at 3.5 percent. The investments sector came third at 10 percent of total trading volume, with Investment Pearl of Kuwait in the lead at 37 per cent, followed by Kuwait International Investment Company at 30 per cent and National Investments Company at 21 percent. (This company was recently listed on the exchange and is not represented in the index). As for the Gulf Shares Market, The Financial Sector led at 99 percent of total traded volume of which Coast Investment Company had the largest share at 83 percent, followed by Bahrain International Bank at 11 percent, and Arabian General Investment (SHUAA) at 5 percent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

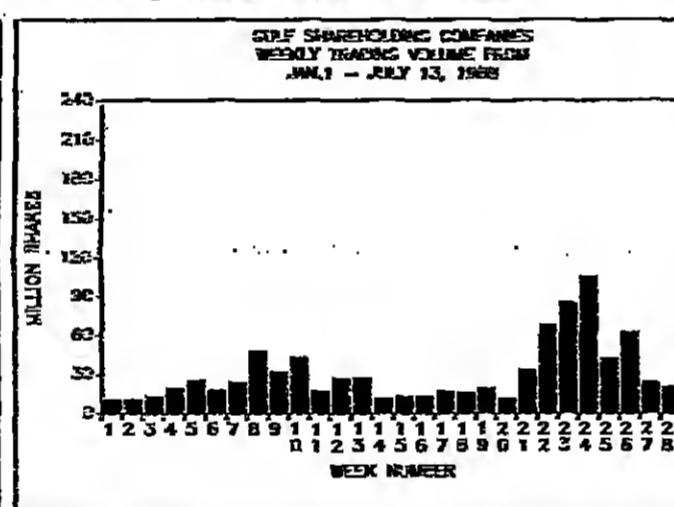
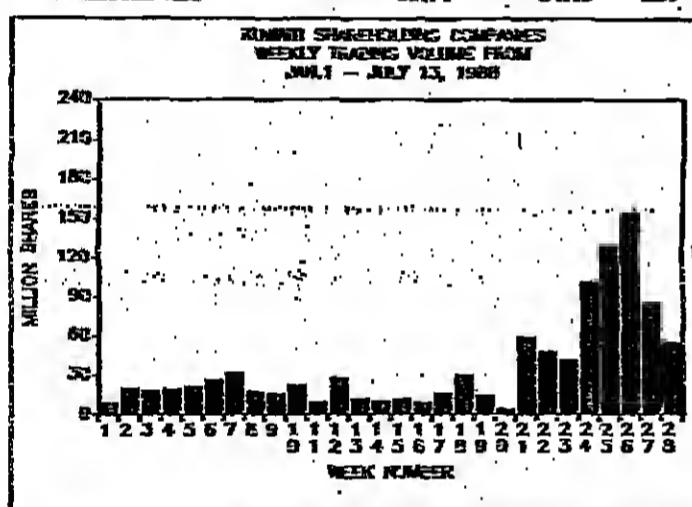
	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
	12/07/88	05/07/88	points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	89.28	90.29	-0.01
The Gulf Bank	32.73	31.07	1.66
The Commercial Bank	24.82	23.95	0.87
Al Ahli Bank	35.56	32.20	3.36
Kuwait & M. East	33.33	33.77	-0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	34.13	33.73	0.40
Burgan Bank	28.24	27.25	0.99
Kuwait Finance House	68.79	67.27	1.51
Sector Index	42.58	42.71	0.79
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	32.32	33.06	-0.73
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	29.21	29.21	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	85.71	84.13	1.59
Overall Index			
	48.11	47.96	0.28
Base Period 31/12/1983.			

IFIA	73.53	75.00	-1.47
Commercial Facilities	116.25	116.25	—
Sector Index	42.81	42.45	-0.45
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	36.97	36.97	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	26.15	26.92	-0.77
Al Ahli Insurance Co.	47.74	47.74	—
Warba Insurance Co.	74.74	76.46	-1.72
Sector Index	37.92	38.21	-0.29
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	28.55	28.55	—
United Realty	12.06	12.06	—
National Real Estate	41.01	41.41	-0.40
Sector Index	21.12	21.18	-0.06
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.36	16.36	—
Refrigeration Indust.	58.94	83.65	5.30
Gulf Cables	104.90	106.96	-2.06
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	84.44	88.00	-3.56
Sector Index	34.13	34.19	-0.06
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	198.72	194.40	-4.32
Kuwait Cucina Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	87.88	86.87	1.01
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	39.95	40.95	-1.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	376.19	371.43	4.76
Sector Index	88.49	88.82	0.33
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	45.16	45.57	-0.41
United Fisheries	10.91	11.05	-0.14
Kuwait United Poultry	83.61	83.61	—
Kuwait Food Co.	70.11	67.82	2.30
Sector Index	41.84	41.84	0.19
Overall Index	38.53	38.14	0.39

Gulf shareholding companies index

	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
	12/07/88	05/07/88	points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	92.41	93.79	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	81.63	81.63	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	97.14	93.33	3.81
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Co.	61.85	61.85	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	53.79	53.03	0.76
Sector Index	63.49	63.19	0.30
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	13.68	13.68	—
Sharjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	9.21	9.21	—
Ras Al Khaimah W. Cement	25.00	25.00	—
Gulf Medical Projects	29.80	29.80	—
Sector Index	15.86	15.86	—
Overall Index	48.11	47.96	0.28
Base Period 31/12/1983.			

Provided by Alshall Economic Consultants



Slow growth and uncertainty persist

Action needed to restructure economic policies

WASHINGTON, July 16: Despite increasing optimism about the short-term economic outlook in the industrialised economies, slow growth and uncertainty about medium-term prospects persist, both industrial and developing economies as the 1980s draw to a close. The continuation of fiscal and trade imbalances create serious downside risks for the world economy. Unless governments take further action to reduce these imbalances and restructure economic policies, opportunities for sustaining and increasing world economic growth—essential to improving the growth prospects of the developing economies—will be lost.

This prospect is presented in Part 1 of World Development Report 1988, published last week by the World Bank. Part 11 explores the role of public finance policies in development and concludes that reducing fiscal deficits to sustainable levels, reforming tax and expenditure policies and accelerating government decentralisation are essential to long-term growth in many developing countries.

Prospects
Under the High case, three main steps are needed to improve prospects for growth and reduce the risk of further instability in the financial market, and possibly, of a sharp slowdown in activity beyond the near term. The first is credible action to reduce the US federal budget deficit in the United States which is essential to bring about a lasting reduction in the current account deficit and lower real interest rates. Second, Japan should moderate, and Germany accelerate, the growth of domestic demand through appropriate macroeconomic and structural policies. Third, those newly industrialised economies (NIEs) of East Asia running sizable current account surpluses could do even more to accelerate the growth of domestic demand, appreciate their currencies against the US dollar and reduce the degree of protection of their domestic producers.

In addition, developing countries should continue to reform internal policies, and net transfers from developing to industrial countries should be reduced.

Without concerted policy action, the global economic outlook is more likely to conform to the Base case. Per capita,

already more severe than it was during the Great Depression in the industrial countries. The tide of poverty and misery in those countries is rising, not receding.

The Report presents alternative paths of future growth based on policy changes that need to be adopted by both developed and developing countries. If such changes are adopted, under the high case scenario, annual growth in real per capita GDP in the industrial countries for the period 1987-1995 could average 2.6 per cent. According to this scenario, developing countries could average a real per capita GDP annual growth of 3.6 per cent. In the absence of reform, the Base case scenario projections drop to 1.8 per cent for the industrial countries and to 2.2 per cent for the developing countries.

The report stresses the importance of fiscal balance in achieving economic stability and growth in developing countries, most of which have faced fiscal crises during the past decade. Whatever their economic circumstances—whether low-income, middle-income, oil

exporter, oil importer, planned or market economy—many countries saw public sector deficits rise to unsustainable levels in the years before 1982.

Since the early 1980s, the reduction in deficits has been impressive, though in many countries it is still insufficient. The challenge is to contain deficits without faltering further into recession.

Large fiscal deficits are often at the root of both external and internal macroeconomic imbalances.

External imbalances produce as a consequence high real interest rates, low rates of private investment, and high inflation. Prudent fiscal policy—that is, fiscal deficits consistent with low

and stable inflation, a sustainable level of foreign debt and a favourable climate for private investment—is indispensable to stabilisation and adjustment.

Also, reforms in many other areas—financial liberalisation, currency devaluation, price deregulation, trade reform, and so on—both require a stable fiscal environment and have implications that have to be taken into account in setting fiscal policy.

The high cost of raising revenue means it is vital to set priorities and attain quality in public spending. Priorities can be set by considering what governments and markets do best.

Public provision of infrastructure for transport, communications, power, water supply and irrigation is warranted, as is public spending on basic education and health.

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SPORTS

AUSTRALIA SET TO FACE BRAZIL IN GOLD CUP FINAL

Argentina overcome Saudi Arabia

CANBERRA, Australia, July 16, (AP): World Cup holder Argentina scrambled to a 2-0 win over Saudi Arabia today in a bicentennial Gold Cup soccer tournament playoff for third place.

The Argentine team salvaged some self-respect after losing 4-1 to Australia on Thursday night, but gave another ill-disciplined display.

Diego Simeone gave the South Americans the lead with a well-placed header after only four minutes and Oscar Dertysia made it 2-0 in the 30th minute.

Sent

Saudi Arabia played with 10 men for the final 55 minutes after goalkeeper Salem Marwan was sent off for punching Argentine sweeper Mario Lucca.

Argentina, however, was unable to take advantage, playing negative, uninspired soccer in a match punctuated by a number of wild tackles.

The victory was Argentina's first in four matches in the tournament, which is being played to celebrate the 200th anniversary of European settlement of Australia.

Australia faces three-time World Cup winner Brazil in the final at the Sydney Football Stadium tomorrow.

Argentina earlier had drawn 2-2 with Saudi Arabia in round-robin play, drawn 0-0 with Brazil and then lost 4-1 to Australia—their worst defeat for 30 years.



Argentina's Nestor Lorenzo (left) tackles Saudi Arabia's Bander Surour. (Reuter wirephoto)

Coach Carlos Bilardo went into the tournament hampered by the enforced absence of stars like Diego Maradona and Jorge Burruchaga.

Argentina took the lead when Diaz floated a deep corner to the far post, where Simeone rose high to head the ball down past Marwan.

They made it 2-0 when Claudio Cabrera passed to Hernan Diaz, whose shot was

parried by Marwan to Dertysia, who rammed it back past the goalkeeper.

Referee Gary Power of Australia had to hand out eight cautions during the game.

Australia's victory over Argentina on Thursday was the best in their soccer history and the Aussies believe they can reverse a 1-0 loss against Brazil earlier in the four-nation championship.

Arok said central defender Robbie Dunn had recovered

from a shin injury he suffered against Argentina on Thursday night and was certain to start the match.

Brazil has team problems with Muller and Geovani nursing injuries and Ademir having to sit out the match because of a suspension. He is expected to be replaced by Andrade.

Arok said he had great respect for the Brazilians, who have won two and drawn one of their three matches to date.

"They are now much closer to being a well-drilled side, fluent, reasonably young and more imaginative than the other sides," Arok said.

Euphoria

Striker Graham Arnold said today that the Australians had calmed down after the euphoria of the victory over Argentina.

"We've played Brazil once and should have won, but we're not over-confident about the final. Now we can be against that team," he said.

"But we're in an unbelievable situation, something we never expected and we have the confidence we can do better."

Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Silva took his team for a light training session today and warned them they face a battle in the final.

"Australia is strong and physical and have shown now that they also have skills," he said.



Groundkeepers try to squeeze water into the cup on the 11th green. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rain hits British Open

LYTHAM, England, July 16, (AP): Heavy rain flooded at least three greens and forced postponement of the third round of the British Open today.

Officials said the entire third and fourth rounds would be played tomorrow, weather and course conditions permitting. Scores shot early today were thrown out.

The last time the Open finished with a 36-hole final day was in 1961, when the tournament ended on Saturday.

Scheduled

Since the Open went to a Sunday finish in 1980, it never has had more than the scheduled 18 holes played the final day. And, in its first 116 editions, golf's oldest tournament never has finished on a Monday.

Half the field of 71 golfers was on the course when rains, which started just after dawn, picked up.

A downpour about 21-22 hours after the first starters, Payne Stewart and Gordon Brand Jr., teed off flooded greens at the ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th holes, and play was suspended at 1120 GMT.

Officials waited an hour and

McCallister shares lead

COAL VALLEY, Ill., July 16, (Reuter): Blaine McCallister shugged off intense heat to fire a 62 for a 36-hole 130 to tie fellow-Americans Russ Cochran and Dan Forsman for the second-round lead at the \$600,000 Oakwood Classic golf tournament yesterday.

Following the three leaders at one-shot back is Sam Randolph, who shot a 67 on Friday for a 36-hole total of 131. In back of Randolph at 132 are Jeff Sluman, Ernie Gonzalez, Dan Phil, Mark Maness and Ron Streck.

McCallister started on the back-nine for the second round and scored four birdies and one bogie on his opening nine. He bogied the first hole, his 10th, when he three-putted the par-4, but went on to birdie holes two through four, and six of his final eight.

"I started birdie-birdie (10th, 11th), and that put me in a good frame of mind," McCallister said. "The two bogies I had, I followed up with birdies. I worked all day on having a good swing, and then following it up with another good swing. I had my opportunities today, and I took advantage of them."

Cochran, one of only two left-handers on the PGA tour, tied for the second lowest round of the day with a six-under 64. He played bogieless golf all day, scoring six birdies on the par-70 course.

Tyson has no agreement on Bruno fight

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Mike Tyson and Bill Cayton have not come to an agreement that will permit the scheduled Sept. 3 fight with Frank Bruno to go forward, lawyers for both parties said yesterday.

At the instant Herrera refreshed himself with a bottle of water, the Spaniard attacked and the Colombian was left stranded, completely unable to respond.

Delgado finished second to Stephen Roche of Ireland in last year's tour after taking the yellow jersey until the finish in Paris on July 24.

But the injured Roche is not there this time and Delgado's preparation has been much better.

He ducked the Tour de France, a race he won in 1985, for the first time so that he could enter the Giro d'Italia purely as a warm-up for the Tour de France he so badly wanted to capture.

Helped

He was a useful seventh in Italy but, more importantly, found it helped him to find the right sort of form to tackle the biggest of the three major tours.

"A lot of people at home didn't understand why I missed the Tour de France," he said. "But Bernard Hinault and Greg Lemond successfully used the Giro to prepare for the Tour de France so I thought it couldn't be a bad idea to try it too."

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1988

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Morgan rides high on debut as manager

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Roger Clemens made sure Joe Morgan will remember his debut as Boston Red Sox manager.

So did the rest of the Red Sox, who swept Kansas City 3-1 and 7-4 last night, making Morgan 2-0 since taking over Thursday from the fired John McNamara.

"Everybody wants to win for the man because nothing is definite," Mike Greenwell said. "We've got to go out and play for him. It seems like we have a good atmosphere around here now. We just have to keep it."

With Clemens pitching the way he did last night, the Sox will have no trouble being happy campers.

Clemens pitched a five-hitter and struck out 16 Royals for the second time this season in the opener. He lowered his earned run average to 2.29 and completely dominated the Royals.

Wade Boggs and Rick Cerone homered in the second game for Boston, which had lost eight of its last 12 games under McNamara.

"We're going to play a little different type of baseball," Greenwell promised. "We've got a lot of good hitters. We've just got to go out and make things happen. That's something we didn't do enough of in the first half."

Blue Jays 1, Athletics 0

At Oakland, Jummy Key got his fourth straight victory since coming off the disabled list and George Bell drove in the only run. Bell drove in the game's only run with a single in the third inning and he also threw out a runner at the plate.

Angels 6, Tigers 4

California built a 6-0 lead and held on. Jack Howell hit a three-run homer in the first inning for the Angels, whose four runs in that inning were their most in a first inning this year. Mike Witt, 7-9, went 7-13 innings, allowing eight hits. Brian Harvey finished for his 10th save.

Mariners 8, Indians 5

At Seattle, Dave Valle sparked a four-run seventh inning with a two-run double as the Mariners handed Cleveland its sixth straight loss. Brook Jacoby had capped a five-run sixth-inning with his second career Grand Slam to put the Indians ahead 5-2. Mike Schoeler got his fifth save.

Twins 4, Orioles 2

At Baltimore, Garry Gaett used his bat — hitting his 20th home run of the season, a two-run shot — and his glove — with two sparkling plays at third base. That helped Charlie Lea to his fifth victory in his last six starts.

Brewers 4, Orioles 2

At Arlington, Texas, Ted Higuera pitched a five-hitter before needing last-out relief from Dan Plesac and Paul Molitor had three hits in Milwaukee's fifth consecutive win. The Texas Rangers have lost four straight and have scored only six runs in the last 39 innnings.

Braves 4, Mets 3

Dale Murphy, struggling through the worst season of his career, ended Atlanta's four-game losing streak on one swing — launching Randy Myers' 10th-inning fastball into the left-field seats for his 15th homer leading off the bottom of the 10th.

Dodgers 3, Cubs 2

At Tracy, Woodson, hitless in nine at-bats since being recalled from the minors last week, had a pinch-hit RBI single in the 10th to give the Dodgers their third win in two days. Alejandro Pena, 4-3, pitched two scoreless innnings for the victory.

Astros 5, Phillies 2

Philadelphia starter Kevin Gross made only one mistake in seven innnings, but Houston's Glenn Davis made him pay for it. Gross, 8-6, allowed four hits in seven innnings, but Jim Desbaise, 6-6, gave up just three before Danny Darwin pitched two hitless innnings for his first save.

Reds 6, Expos 3

Eric Davis' three-run homer off Jeff Parrett lifted Cincinnati over Montreal and ended the Expos' eight-game winning streak. Jose Rijo, 10-4, allowed three hits in seven innnings to reach double figures in victories for the first time in his career.

Results

American League

(1) Boston	3	Kansas City	1
(2) Boston	7	Kansas City	4
New York	5	Chicago	3
Minnesota	4	Baltimore	2
Milwaukee	4	Texas	2
Seattle	8	Cleveland	4
California	6	Detroit	4
Toronto	1	Oakland	0
National League			
(10) Los Angeles	3	Chicago	2
Cincinnati	6	Montreal	2
Houston	5	Philadelphia	2
Pittsburgh	8	San Francisco	5
(10) Atlanta	4	New York	3
San Diego	7	St. Louis	3

Wallabies let world champions off the hook

All Blacks force thrilling 19-19 draw

BRISBANE, July 16, (Reuter): New Zealand, 10 points down at half-time, recovered to salvage a 19-19 draw against a rejuvenated Australia in the second rugby union Test today.

New Zealand looked anything but world champions in the first 40 minutes in the face of a Wallaby whirlwind which resulted in tries for winger Ian Williams and centre James Grant.

But the All Blacks, trailing 6-16 at halftime, came to life after the interval. A stream of first class possession launched wave after wave of black jerseys against the Australian defence, and it eventually cracked.

Winger Terry Wright scored a simple try after 10 minutes of All Black pressure finally yielded a huge overlap, and Grant Fox's conversion made the score 16-12.

Fox took his Test points tally to 196 and his side to within one point of the Wallabies with a 65th-minute penalty. But full-back Andrew Leeds, who had an inspirational game, replied with

another penalty to put Australia 19-15 ahead.

Amid unbelievable tension the All Blacks, yet to lose since winning the World Cup last year, threw everything they had at the home side.

John Kirwan left David Campese for dead on the right wing but was hauled into touch by his collar inches from the line by a stretching Steve Cutler.

The New Zealand attack could not be denied, however. Five minutes from time Kirwan cut back inside on the 25-metre line and scythed through to score his 21st international try.

Fox, the "best placekicker" in world rugby, took an age over the conversion. But his attempt went wide and Australia's bravery was rewarded with only the fifth draw in 85 games between the two countries.

But the home three-quarters retained their sharpness and they became the first side to score two tries against New Zealand in two years when Grant accelerated

past Joe Stanley to score.

Leeds converted and added another penalty right on half-time after the All Blacks, showing an uncharacteristic lack of control, argued with referee Brian Anderson from Scotland.

New Zealand lead the three-match series 1-0. The final Test is in Sydney on July 30.

Australia: Andrew Leeds; Ian Williams, James Grant, Michael Cook (replaced by Stephen James), David Campese; Lloyd Walker, Nick Farr-Jones (captain); Tim Gavin, Simon Poidvin, Steve Cutler, Damien Frawley, Jeff Miller, and Andy McIntyre, Tom Lawton, Mark Hartill (Rob Lawton).

New Zealand: John Gallagher, John Kirwan, Joe Stanley, John Schuster, Terry Wright; Grant Fox, Bruce Deans; Wayne Shelford (captain), Alan Whetton, Murray Pierce, Michael Jones, Richard Loe, Sean Fitzpatrick, Steven McDowell.

Waller widens gap at top

DANVERS, Mass., July 16, (Reuter): First-round leader American Colleen Waller extended her lead to five shots after shooting a three-under par 69 mid-way through the \$300,000 Boston Classic golf tournament yesterday.

Walker is at nine-under par. Six players are tied for second place. Including Jan Stephenson of Australia and Americans Becky Pearson, Kathryn Young, Cathy Marino, Betsy King and Cindy Rarick.

Walker is at nine-under par. Six players are tied for second place. Including Jan Stephenson of Australia and Americans Becky Pearson, Kathryn Young, Cathy Marino, Betsy King and Cindy Rarick.

Walker started out fast making birdies on three of her first four holes. She birdied the second from 10 feet, the third from 12 feet and the fourth from 10 feet.

"It's hot," McCallister said. "I thought Atlanta was hot last month, but they have nothing on

China seeks to repeat 1984 triumphs

Sarron takes pole position

RIJEKA, Yugoslavia, July 16. (Reuter): Christian Sarron of France clinched his fourth successive pole position today in a practice session marred by a crash involving world 500cc motorcycling championship leader Eddie Lawson.

Lawson, who had complained about the tyres on his Yamaha on both days of official practice for tomorrow's Yugoslav Grand Prix, injured his shoulder in the crash during the final session after setting the fifth best time.

But the American, who is on course for his third world title, said he would be fit to race tomorrow.

Sarron, also riding a Yamaha, set the best time ever in practice on the windy Grobnik track near Rijeka with one minute 30.176 seconds.

Reigning world champion Wayne Gardner of Australia, second to Lawson in this season's standings, was the second fastest with 1:30.511 with fellow-Honda rider Niall MacKenzie of Britain just behind in 1:30.602.

Lyng
Despite his ability in practice Sarron has yet to win a race this season and is lying eighth in the world championship standings with 74 points, 85 behind Lawson.

Gardner, who won the last two races in the Netherlands and Belgium, said he hoped to collect another victory.

Spaniards Alfonso Sito Pons and Juan Garriga set up another exciting duel in the 250cc class. Pons, who leads the world championship standings from Garriga by just one point, clocked the fastest practice time on his Honda 0.408 seconds faster than his Yamaha rival.

Another Spaniard, Derhi rider Jorge Martinez, who hopes to become double world champion, clinched pole positions for both the 80 and 125cc races.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cram defeated

GATESHEAD, England, July 16. (AP): Frank O'Mara, the Irishman who accidentally dented Sebastian Coe's Olympic hopes earlier this week, provided a nasty shock for another leading British middle-distance runner, Steve Cram, at the IAAF Kodak Classic track and field meet today, just four days after unwittingly causing Coe a leg injury by tripping him during a race in Dublin, the world indoor 3,000 metres champion narrowly beat Cram over two miles with a time of 8 minutes 17.78 seconds.

New mark

MOSCOW, July 16. (Reuter): Sergei Martynov of the Soviet Union set a world record in air rifle shooting today at the International Shooting Championships in Moscow. Tass news agency said. He scored 597 points out of 600 for the 60 shots at 10 metres, improving by one point the previous world record set by Frenchman Jean-Pierre Amat in Zurich in June 1987, the agency said.

World Cup

KAMPALA, July 16. (Reuter): Uganda beat Malawi 1-0 (half-time 0-0) in the World Cup soccer African group first round, first leg match here today.

Swim record

MOSCOW, July 16. (Reuter): Soviet swimmer Igor Polyanski broke his own 100 metres backstroke world record today with a time of 55.00 seconds, the Soviet news agency Tass reported.

USA triumph

DURHAM, N.C., July 16. (AP): Tino Martinez hit a first-inning, three-run home run, and Ty Griffen collected three doubles and drove in two runs to lead team USA to a 10-4 victory over Taiwan in an Olympic exhibition game last night.

Boxing team

LAS VEGAS, Nev., July 16. (AP): Sugar Ray Leonard, one of the golden boys of the 1976 Games in Montreal, severed his connection with the 1988 US Olympic boxing team yesterday as the discord surrounding the team continued.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Sheraton Bridge Club "Marathon Bridge" held on Friday at the Sheraton Hotel. 1. Carsten & Simon 2. Sherin & Mesdari 3. Dr Bayomi & Izzeldin

MCNEIL STAVES OFF DEFEAT

Shriver outplays White



Shriver screams in joy after her victory.

Reggi sails past Kanelloupolou

Sanchez trounces Cuetos

from the impatient Cuetos.

"I was playing with a lot of confidence," Sanchez said. "I know how she plays and she knows my way of playing."

Reggi, in her first tournament since a one-month layoff because of injury, ended Kanelloupolou's seed-slashing run with accurate passing shots from the baseline.

Kanelloupolou had defeated second seed Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria and sixth-seeded Niobe Dias of Brazil in earlier rounds.

Yesterday, the fifth-seeded Cuetos, winner of the Bastad tournament in Sweden last week, broke Garrison's service in the fourth game but the experienced American broke back to level at 7-5-6.

Stepped

Cuetos, the fifth seed, was a shadow of the player who upset top seed Zina Garrison of the United States in the quarter-final.

It was only after saving two matchpoints at 5-1 in the second set that she stepped up the pace and traded baseline play for some daring volleys.

But then Sanchez, who put Chris Evert out of the French Open in the third round in May, slowed down the game and induced some appalling errors

NEWPORT, R.I., July 16. (Reuter): Top-seeded Pam Shriver of the United States coasted into the semifinals of the \$200,000 Newport international tennis tournament, but second-seeded compatriot Lori McNeil had to save three match points to head off elimination yesterday.

McNeil, who defeated countrywoman Anna Henriksson 4-6 7-5 6-3, will play fourth-seeded Ros Fairbank of South Africa in the other semifinal match. Fairbank routed Lea Antonopoulou of the United States 6-2 6-1.

Volleyed

Shriver, the two-time defending champion, served-and-volleyed her way past countrywoman Wendy White 6-4 6-4 and now faces third-seeded Barbara Potter, who got past American Robin White, seeded fifth, 6-3 6-3 in another serve-and-volley duel.

Henriksson, ranked 75th in the world, played her way to a 6-4 5-4 lead and was serving at 40-0, triple match point when disaster struck.

She missed three first serves to allow McNeil to win the first two points at the net and the third

point from the baseline on a backhand which sailed wide.

McNeil, ninth in the world, said that she did not think about the pressure of being down match point but tried to concentrate on each point.

"I played it one point at a time. She was waiting for me to give her a point, but I wasn't going to do that," McNeil said.

Henriksson managed to stay close in the third set, but McNeil's grass court experience pulled her through the crucial points as she continually attacked and exploited Henriksson's inability to hit passing shots.

Henriksson said that she was very upset with the line calls and lost concentration during parts of the second and third sets.

Amateur

"It was a joke. The ball had to be a foot out for them to call it out. It was amateur city out there. It really made me mad," Henriksson said.

Shriver, third in the world, played with her typical attacking style throughout her win over White, a less accomplished serve-and-volleyer than Shriver.

Filippini reaches GP final

BASTAD, Sweden, July 16. (AP): Marcelo Filippini of Uruguay overcame a slow start and defeated Paolo Cane of Italy 2-6, 6-2, 6-4 today to reach the final of the Swedish Open tennis championships.

The other semifinal between Christian Bergstrom of Sweden and Francesco Cancellotti was scheduled later this evening.

Filippini, who started playing full time only last year and was ranked 87th in the world going into this tournament, played steady clay court tennis in the last two sets.

He never was broken in the decisive set, twice holding to love and not losing more than one point in his other service games.

The 20-year-old Filippini, who upset top-seeded defending champion Joakim Nystrom of Sweden in the quarterfinals, scored the only break in the first game of the third set.

Both players had the rest of the way. Cane, who was trying to become the first Italian finalist here since former Swedish superstar Bjorn Borg beat Corrado Barazzutti 10 years ago, staved off a match point at 30-40 and 3-5. He finally managed to hold his serve to stay in the match.

But Filippini then held at 15, clinching the match off a bullet forehand pass that Cane could not return with his forehand volley.

Filippini, seeded No. 7, was the only seeded player to reach the final four.

Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg is only playing doubles here and Mats Wilander, the Australian and French Open champion, is resting before next weekend's Davis Cup semifinal, when defending champion Sweden plays France at this south Swedish seaside resort.

The other Swedish Davis Cup team members, clay court specialist Kent Carlsson and doubles expert Anders Jarryd, played in other tournaments this week.

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team members, clay court specialist Kent Carlsson and doubles expert Anders Jarryd, played in other tournaments this week.



Lewis (left) stays ahead of Mike Haynes to win the 100 metres. (Reuter wirephoto)

Joyner-Kersee set to break world mark

INDIANAPOLIS, July 16. (Reuter): Jackie Joyner-Kersee appeared ready to break her world record in the women's heptathlon after setting a world heptathlon first day best and two American heptathlon marks on the opening day of the event at the US Olympic trials yesterday.

Her 4,367 points were the best ever on the first day of the event and put her 222 points ahead of her pace set in establishing the world record of 7,158 points in 1986.

Fastest

"My job now is to keep her below 7,300 points," Bob Kersee, her husband and coach, said jokingly after Joyner-Kersee had run the 200 metres in 22.30 seconds, the fastest ever by a heptathlete.

East German Anke Behmer had set the previous best of 22.73 seconds earlier this year.

"It's possible — 7,300 points," said Joyner-Kersee, who also had personal heptathlon bests of 12.71 seconds in the 100-metre hurdles and 1.93 metres in the high jump and put the shot 15.63 metres despite throwing into the rain. The hurdles and high jump performances were US heptathlon records.

"I hope to open in the long jump by going at least 7.15 metres and I'm confident this year of my javelin throw and the 800 metres," Joyner-Kersee, the US record holder in the long jump, said in discussing today's final three events of the competition.

"If she can leap at least 7.14 metres in the long jump and take

the javelin and 800 in stride, she'll break the world record," Kersee said. "I know she has a 2,900-point second-day in her.

Earlier yesterday, Carl Lewis was on the most impressive one-day performance ever by a 100 metres runner when he twice ran 9.96 seconds in preliminary rounds.

No other athlete on record has ever run the 100 metres in less than 10.00 seconds twice on the same day, meeting officials said.

Lewis's second 100 came about eight hours after the first and enabled him to twice equal history's seventh fastest time in the event.

US stars Edwin Moses and Mary Decker Slaney also advanced easily on the first day of the nine-day meeting that will decide the US team for Seoul.

Moses, almost walking five metres before the finish, won his round of the 400 metres hurdles in 49.31 seconds.

Kevin Young, a strong possibility to make the US team with 1984 Olympians Moses and Danny Harris, equalled the second fastest 400 metres hurdles time of the year. He won the first heat in 48.27 seconds. Harris won one in 48.91 seconds.

Clocked

Slaney, beginning her quest for an Olympic spot in the 3,000 metres, clocked nine minutes, 43.2 seconds in preliminary round.

In the day's only final, Randy Barnes, Gregg Tafalis and Jim Doering won berths on the US team by finishing 1-2-3 in the men's shot put. Barnes had the best mark — 21.88 metres.

"After rain, the ring was very slippery and there was hardly any wind, so I am especially pleased with the result," said the world and European junior champion.

"It gives me confidence that after the World Junior Championships in Sudbury (Canada) perhaps I can be at the Olympics too," she added.

Cargomen score easy victory

HATID LIGAYA-Abughosh Int'l thrashed Alghanim Freight 4-0 on Thursday in a game regarded as the battle of champions when the eighth round of games for the Palangor Philipine Bowling '88 were held at the 300 Club Silver Tower.

The Cargomen (Hatid Ligaya) put in an excellent teamwork to score 858, 807 and 926 in their three games against 763, 804 and 737 by Alghanim.

The top scorers for the Cargomen were Willy Sabay 557, Manny Inserto (captain) 546, Rudy Zablan 531, Flor Tongson 500 and Ope Olor 463.

In the other matches on Thursday, Kay & Associates beat Kabayan Restaurant 3-1 and Mobil Oil trounced Atlas Int'l Corporation 4-0.

In the matches played on Friday, Public Ports Authority crushed Kuwait Regency Palace 3-1. Oriental Trading 3-1, Kay & Associates also scored a 3-1 win over Atlas Int'l, Alghanim Freight thrashed Kabayan Restaurant 4-0 and the Cargomen overcame Mobil Oil 3-1.

The High Game of the day was a score of 258 pinsfall by Sammy Begonia of Kabayan while Pete Nierva got 226. In the High Series Nierva finished at the top with a total of 596 while Edwin Nepomuceno, of Kay & Associates was second with 578.

In the team standings, Hatid Ligaya lead with an average of 856.4 while Oriental Trading are second with 847 and Alghanim Freight third with 841.

Wyludda sets another junior discus record

EAST BERLIN, July 16. (Reuter): East Germany's remarkable young discus thrower like Wyludda bettered her own women's world record yesterday for the fourth time this year with a throw of 72.70 metres.

The 19-year-old improved the week-old previous mark by 46 centimetres at the East German Junior Athletics Championships in Karl-Marx-Stadt, her seventh competition this season.

"After rain, the ring was very slippery and there was hardly any wind, so I am especially pleased with the result," said the world and European junior champion.

"It gives me confidence that after the World Junior Championships in Sudbury (Canada) perhaps I can be at the Olympics too," she added.

Talented

Wyludda, fourth at the Rome World Championships last year, is one of five talented East German discus throwers battling for the Olympic team in Seoul.

She is up against world champion Martina Hellmann, runner-up Diana Gansky, Silvia Madatzky and Gabriele Reinsch who set a world record of 76.80 last weekend in Neurandenburg.

Other talents at the East German junior championships were below par because most of the Sudbury team did not compete.

Athey's unbeaten 168 fails to stop Northants



Athey led a spirited Gloucestershire reply

44 not out). Leicestershire 173 for six declared in 56 overs and 133 for nine. J. Simmons four for 17. Lynch 44 not out). Hampshire 125 for four declared in 46 overs (M. Nicholas 57 not out) and 299 for two. J. Simmons 78 not out, P. Prichard 65 not out). Essex 22 points. Derbyshire 5.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Worcestershire match drawn. Worcestershire 130 in 62 overs and 14